Coast to coast -

UCSF launches massive survey of gay and bi men in SF, LA, Chicago, NYC.

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Transgenders in DC:

a lively presence at Creating Change conference. page 18



Moving Pictures: Films by photographers screen at SFMOMA.

see Arts section



Vol. 26 • No. 47 • 21 November 1996

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Gay fraud shrink suspect busted in Canada, faces extradition to SF

by Dennis Conkin

fugitive San Francisco gay man who allegedly posed as a psychiatrist and prescribed powerful psychiatric drugs to his trusting patients was apprehended last month in Canada on outstanding felony and misdemeanor charges.

Lonnie Dean Lewis remains in the custody of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police in Montreal, Quebec after his October 30 arrest. He will be the subject of either deportation or extradition proceedings to San Francisco, the Bay Area Reporter has confirmed.

Lewis, who operated Health Contended to the contended of the contended of

Area Reporter has confirmed.
Lewis, who operated Health Constellation, a Civic Center area health clinic, was the subject of a 213-count warrant issued last March, following a ten-month investigation by the District Attorney office's special prosecutions section, the California State Medical Board, and other state and local agencies.

local agencies.

Health Constellation advertised in Health Constellation advertised in the gay press that it provided a full range of healthcare, including med-ical, nursing, mental health and social work services for people with HIV/AIDS.

HIV/AIDS.

Lewis was allegedly able to dupe local pharmacies into filing prescriptions by using stolen prescription pads and a dispensing license number stolen from a real physician.

According to sources, Lewis was so good at his alleged con job that he convinced at least one drug company salesman to leave free samples of drugs at the clinic, which specialized in low-income patients.

drugs at the clinic, which specialized in low-income patients.

Lewis routinely dispensed drugs for psychiatric afflictions, ranging from simple anxiety to more serious sychiatric conditions such as major depression, schizophrenia, and manic-depressive psychoses, according to the complaint.

No estimates of how much money Lewis defrauded from his patients were available when the story was initially reported earlier this year.

page 27 ▶

Basher jumps bai

by Dennis Conkin

convicted gay basher has be-come a fugitive after failing to turn himself in to serve a six month county jail sen-tence on misdemeanor hate crime

and assault charges.
Jonathan Bell, 22, failed to turn himself in to the custody of the San Francisco Sheriff's authorities at the county jail processing center

at the county jail processing center at 850 Bryant Street on Thursday, November 14, as ordered by Municipal Court Judge Julie Tang.
Bell was sentenced November 6 to a year in county jail, suspended down to six months, plus three years probation, restitution, counseling, and apologies to Ronald Bennett, the victim of the October 1995 South of Market assault. Codefendant John Cody Lee's one defendant John Cody Lee's one

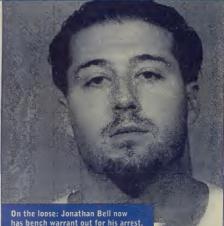
Tang also ordered Bell and Lee,

also 22, to apologize to the entire San Francisco lesbian and gay community for the attack, in the form of a letter or an announce-ment in the gay press. Bennett, a University of Cali-fornia San Francisco transplant team operating nurse, had been

team operating nurse, had been walking from the Lone Star Sa-loon to the SF Eagle, dressed in a leather jacket and pants, when four men jumped out of a car and assaulted him. Bennett's life was threatened during the round-robin attack, in which he was pushed and beaten by the as-sailants, who used repeated antigay slurs

Three East Bay men were arrested waiting in line at a local nightclub later that evening and were eventually brought to trial in connection with the crime. Ac-

Another loser on the lam



Mik gets delivered Wednesday by Mike Salinas Film, march, opera

hose who knew the late San Francisco Supervisor Harvey Milk will have a special opportunity to remember him, and those who never got to know him may learn some valuable and entertaining history, at a day-long commemoration of his legacy and assassination Wednesday, November 27.

The annual memorial candlelight march to mark Milk's death will be preceded this year by a film, and followed by an opera, both of which tell the story of how he and Mayor George Moscone were shot 18 years ago by homophobic former Supervisor Dan White.

The Castro Theatre will show the Academy Award-winning documentary The Times of Harvey Milk, introduced by its producer Epstein, beginning at 4:40 p.m.

At 6:30 p.m., several of Milk's friends will participate in a program at the site of his former camera shop, and political headquarters, at 575 Castro Street (between 18th and 19th streets). The commemorative candlelight march will form in front of the shop be-fore heading up Castro to Market, and then down to 8th Street to end in front of the Or-

pheum Theatre.
The San Francisco Opera, which is using

the Orpheum during renovations of the Opera House, is holding the curtain on a special performance of its production *Harvey Milk* that night until 8:30 p.m., as a cour-

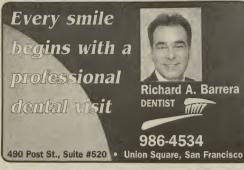
vey Milk that night until 8:30 p.m., as a cour-tesy to marching operagoers.

Both The Times of Harvey Milk and Har-vey Milk show the gay leader's rise to politi-cal prominence despite deeply ingrained ho-mophobia in society, and his murder by White, a one-time fellow supervisor. White eventually killed himself, after serving only five years for the double murder.

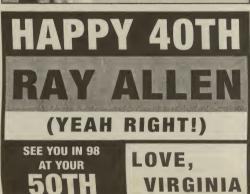
The annual commemorative march

The annual commemorative march began the night of November 27, 1978 as a community response to the City Hall killings. That night's march of over 40,000 people from the Castro to City Hall is the

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in new legal skirmish by Dennis Conkin

Gabbert vs. Wotman

ay San Francisco television station owner James Gab-bert has filed a libel lawsuit against attorney Paul Wotman and former KOFY-TV worker Roger Mele, who filed a 1995 law-suit that sought civil damages from the controversial media mogul for sexual battery and ha-

The lawsuit against Wotman, a prominent local gay attorney, comes shortly after a flurry of ac-tivity in the Mele case – including a last-minute trial continuance sought by Wotman and the resignation of an attorney in Wotman's law firm who had been as-

signed to the case.

Trial was scheduled for November 12, but was continued until April 17 at Wotman's re-

quest.
Wotman declined to discuss associate attorney Robert Lazo's departure from his firm, and Lazo failed to respond to an inquiry from the Bay Area Reporter about the controversy.
Wotman, Mele, and Lazo were append in the October 31 interference of the Control of the Contr

Wotman, Mele, and Lazo were named in the October 31 interference with economic advantage and libel lawsuit, which charges that Mele's widely reported accusations of repeated on-the-job sexual battery and harassment by Gabbert were false.

"These written and verbal allestic processing the and define to the control of the

"These written and verbal allegations were false and defamatory and were made with malice and with reckless disregard of their falsity," O'Sullivan charges in the complaint.
"I'm not worried," Wotman responded. "This is just an attempt by Mr. Gabbert's attorneys to co-

erce my client into dropping his suit. We are prepared to go to

Wotman said that he believes from depositions in the case that the defense will attempt to claim that Gabbert's conduct was "not unwelcome sexual harassment" at

Hot tub hijinks

Mele's 1995 lawsuit detailed claims of sexual harassment by Gabbert against Mele, including a hot tub incident at Gabbert's residence near the Russian River, when Gabbert said that he wanted to "suck [Mele's] dick."

The lawsuit claims that Mele was restrained in the hot tub by a was restrained in the not tub by a guest at the site and fondled by Gabbert – and when the guest stripped Mele of his underwear and attempted to orally copulate Mele, Gabbert grew enraged, pushed the man aside – and tried



Attorney Paul Wotman.

orally copulate Mele himself.
According to the lawsuit, Mele escaped by punching Gabbert in the shoulder – which caused him to fall under the water.
Mele's lawsuit alleges that Gabbert later told Mele the incident "never happened" and gave him a raise to "persuade him not to raise objections to Gabbert's sexual advances"

nces."

Mele also claims in his lawsuit that Gabbert offered to buy him a car in exchange for sexual favors and offered trips to Mexico. Mele also claims he once quit his job as a traffic controller at the station because of the sexual harassment. but later returned when he had been assured it would cease.

At the time the 1995 lawsuit was filed, Wotman told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the civil complaint detailed the "worst case" of sexual harassment he'd ever seen.

"It involved gropings and touching and other sexual batter-ies, and the harassment was ongoing, continued, and repeated," he

Mele sued Gabbert a year after Mele sued Gabbert a year after 25-year-old Sean Sebring, a Santa Rosa man, alleged in a lawsuit that Gabbert had drugged his drink and then tried to rape him after he had been lured aboard Gab-bert's yacht.

Sebring was arrested and jailed after stalking Gabbert and trying to extort cash from him. Later, in a carefully worded statement, Sebring apologized and retracted the allegations. He was given probation for the crimes.

Mele's lawsuit later claimed

that Gabbert had repeatedly told employees that he did try to oral-ly copulate Sebring, but that Se-

No vacht club

According to Gabbert's personal attorney Joe O'Sullivan, there is "no support for the claims or issues anticipated" in a press release Wotman distributed about the Mele lawsuit, and the allega-tions of sexual abuse alleged in the lawsuit were not borne out by investigation, by Mele's sworn de-positions, or by the statements of . witnesses

O'Sullivan accused the defendants of intentionally setting out to injure and damage Gabbert's reputation and economic success in "a despicable, deliberate, cold," callous, and intentional manner."

O'Sullivan said that the lawsuit

against Gabbert had caused "millions of dollars" of losses in advertising for his business in the final quarter of 1995, and that Gabbert was denied membership in the exclusive St. Francis Yacht Club because of Mele's sensational claims.

al claims.

Wotman and the other two defendants committed the alleged libel and interference with Gabbert's economic advantages "maliciously, fraudulently and oppressively," with the "wrongful intent" of injuring Gabbert with "improper and evil motive," according to the lawsuit

ing to the lawsuit.

Wotman also claimed that the statute of limitations for the allegations against him had expired – and dismissed the lawsuit as an "illegal attempt" to chill the right to talk about major issues facing the lesbian and gay community, such as same-sex workplace sexual harassment.

A recent similar lawsuit filed against Wotman by former Pasqua manager Larry Mortensen was recently voluntarily dismissed by Morteagan by Mortensen.

by Mortensen.
Mortensen, the defendant in a same-sex harassment suit by former Pasqua worker Mark Meier that was eventually settled out of court, had charged that he was defamed by when Wotman faxed a copy of a press release and a copy of the complaint to the Bay Area Reporter.

Reporter.
According to Wotman, Gabbert's lawsuit violates the litiga-tion privilege that allows attor-

tion privilege that allows attorneys to provide copies of complaints to reporters without fear of reprisal.

Although a new state law was signed this year that protects such litigation privilege – after conflicting court rulings – it does not go into effect until January.

Wotman previously won a

go into effect until January.

Wotman previously won a
state Court of Appeal ruling dismissing another defamation lawsuit – filed by the parents of a convicted San Jose gay-basher who
alleged that Wotman defamed
them in national talk show accounts of the incident.

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PWA leaves SFGH, dies in apparent hit-and-run accident

by Cynthia Laird

n African-American San Francisco man with AIDSrelated dementia was found dead in the street Friday, November 8, a short time after he walked out of San Francisco General Hospital (SFGH) and was discov-Hospital (SFGH) and was discovered missing by hospital staff. He was apparently killed by a hitand-run driver, according to records at the San Francisco Medical Examiner's office.

Clifford Trusty, 42, had been a patient at SFGH since November 3, when he was admitted to Ward 5C after suffering a seizure caused by severe kidney problems and

5C after suffering a seizure caused by severe kidney problems and HIV-related neuropathy. Medical examiner's records state Trusty apparently informed hospital staff that he had not performed his daily dialysis for the past five days. According to coroner's records, Trusty's body was discovered by a taxicab driver November 8 at about 1:30 a.m., as he was driving his cab on Cesar Chavez Street

about 1:30 a.m., as he was driving his cab on Cesar Chavez Street near where it passes under Highway 101. Trusty's hospital gown was covered in blood, and he was unconscious. Medics were dispatched to the scene, and Trusty was taken back to SFGH, where it was discovered he suffered from "pelvic trauma," and he was pronounced dead at 2:06 a.m.

Trusty was identified as the person who "had discharged himself unannounced against medical advice from Ward 5C just moments earlier," the medical examiner's report stated.

iner's report stated.

Hospital spokeswoman Gloria Rodriguez told the B.A.R. that there is an investigation in



Tragic end: The body of hit-and-run victim Clifford Trusty was found Nov. 8 on Cesar Chavez St. near Hwy. 101.

floor without an escort, he apparently did so on his own," stated

the medical examiner's report.
In addition to apparently not performing daily dialysis, Trusty had also told doctors that he had smoked marijuana that was prob-

ably laced with cocaine shortly before suffering the seizure, death records state. ▼

Anyone who may have seen

Trusty early on Friday, November 8 is asked to call the San Francisco Medical

Examiner's office at (415) 553-1694, or the San Francisco Police at (415) 553-9180.

progress regarding Trusty's death.
"We are investigating the case, as we do in all unusual occurrences," Rodriguez said, adding that administrators will determine what changes in hospital policies need to be made, if any, after the investigation is completed.

Medical examiner's records also indicate that the night before he died, Trusty had apparently tried to leave the hospital. He was escorted back to his room by his mother, Annie Trusty. He had called his mother and expressed his desire to have her pick him up

his desire to have her pick him up and take him home.
Rodriguez said hospital administrators and physicians had met with Trusty's family and pastor.
"Certainly, we empathize with their grief and concerns," Rodriguez added.
The coroner's records state that Trusty, who had late-stage

that Trusty, who had late-stage AIDS, left SFGH at about 1 a.m. November 8. A search was initiated by hospital security after a nurse discovered him missing.

"Despite physician's orders not to allow the subject to leave the

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In last week's article, "'96 gay supe candidate bashed," victim Lorin Rosemond's name was misspelled. Also, his correct age is 33. In the story "SF gay man alleges abuse at used car lot," we misspelled Bob Runkle's name, and reported the cost of the car at \$1,600 instead of the correct figure of \$1,000. The Bay Area Reporter apologizes for the errors, and promises to stop filling the water cooler with Merlot.





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'Party' raises money for Visual AID artist

by Cynthia Laird

fter twice learning that his fter twice learning that his photographs on exhibit at San Francisco City Hall had been badly defaced by a vandal, Visual AID artist Michael Johnstone finally got good news. On Friday, November 15, he was presented with just over \$700, collected through audience donations at several performance of

tions at several performances of the hit comedy *Party*. Coincidentally, some of John-stone's other photographs are being used as part of the *Party* set, along with artwork by other Visu-al AID artists. Johnstone, who lives with AIDS and is on a limited income, said he was thrilled after learning about plans for the

"I think it's marvelous and am really touched by it, especially since I don't know any of the people involved," Johnstone told the

Johnstone said he'd almost for-gotten that some of his work was used as part of the set for the play.
"My art's been on the set for

about three or four months now and I just kind of forgot about it," he said.

Party, which has been in San Francisco since June, has raised over \$10,000 for a variety of nonprofit organizations. At the curtain call of every performance, the cast asks the audience to make a donation to the charity of the

week.
Doug Rodgers, general manager for the production, told the B.A.R. that just over \$700 was raised by audiences to give to Johnstone. Rodgers said cast and crew members of Party were angry when they learned of the vardeliem and decided to selve. vandalism, and decided to ask au-diences attending shows from No-vember 6 to 10 to make donations to help Johnstone.
"Several pieces of art by him

"Several pieces of art by him and his partner are used here, and we felt we owed it to him as fellow artists," Rodgers said. "We stepped aside from our normal practice of picking groups for this one cause for the week."

Audiences have contributed to Shanti, Parents and Friends of Shanti, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), Stop AIDS Project, the Names Project, Pets are Wonderful Support (PAWS), the AIDS Emergency Fund, the Visiting Nurse Association, and Project Inform.

Now, they've helped out Johnstone as well. He's estimated the damage to his defaced photographs at several hundred dollars.

An unknown person or per-sons vandalized 11 of Johnstone's

photographs, a series entitled "Mrs. Vera's Daybook," both puncturing them with a pointed object and scraping them with a flat object. The two incidents occurred October 17 and 30 on the third floor of City Hall, which has security guards who regularly pa-trol the area as well as search people for weapons as they exit the el-

Police reports of the vandalism

Police reports of the vandalism have been made and the case is being investigated.

The photographs have been left on display, and Johnstone is adamant they will remain up until the exhibit ends on December 1. He's at a loss to explain why someone would deface his pictures, which show his partner David Faulk dressed in drag. Johnstone's pictures are just

Johnstone's pictures are just part of the "There's Art in City Hall" exhibit that Supervisor Leslie Katz arranged in conjunc-tion with Visual AID/Artists for AIDS Relief.

Rodgers said that the decision to help Johnstone was made before cast and crew members learned of the second vandalism incident, and are glad they decided to help the artist.

Montagnier to open SF AIDS center, mayor reports

by Cynthia Laird

an Francisco Mayor Willie Brown and Professor Luc Montagnier, co-discoverer of the virus that causes AIDS and president of the Paris, France based World Foundation for AIDS Research, have agreed to establish a combined AIDS research and treatment facility in San

The announcement was made Friday, November 15, as Brown was winding up his goodwill and trade mission to Paris. It may be one of the most substantial efforts of the mayor's week-long trip to the City of Light.

Montagnier is recognized around the world as a pioneer in AIDS research, and credited with "co-discovering" HIV in the mid-1980s. Montagnier is also a professor at France's prestigious Pas-

Specifics of the proposed re-search and treatment facility, such as its location and size, were not immediately available. Funding for the facility was also not men-tioned in Brown's announcement.

Plans call for the San Francisco site to be part of the worldwide network of research and treat-ment centers currently being set up on each continent by the World Foundation for AIDS Re-search. The San Francisco center would be the foundation's first

North American site.
"I am delighted that Dr. Montagnier has selected San Francisco as the ideal site for his North American research center," Brown said last Friday. "With our patient base, with our accessibility to federal and state research funds, and with full cooperation from the mayor's office guaranteed, San Francisco is the logical choice for

Brown and a delegation of San

Francisco researchers and doctors accompanying him on last week's Paris trip met with Montagnier and senior researchers at the foundation's Paris clinic, and then at the Pasteur Institute, for more than two hours last Friday after-

The agreement was a result of those discussions, as well as of a private meeting between Brown, Montagnier, and Dr. Edward Van Brunt, president of the board of trustees for the San Franciscobased French Foundation for Medical Research and Education.

The goal of the World Founda-tion is to add new force to the fight against AIDS by mobilizing private initiatives worldwide as a complement to measures taken by public authorities.

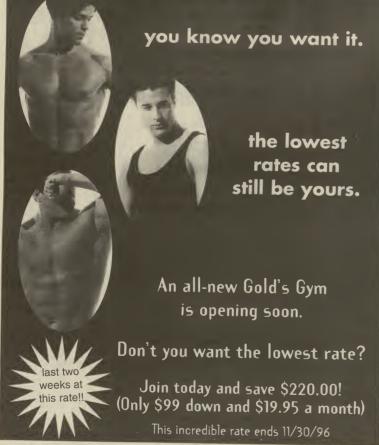
The foundation intends to seek out and support innovative research that will lead to rapid development of medical solutions concerning both therapeutics and vaccines. The foundation pro-vides support for people living with AIDS and encourages and supports education aimed at pre-

vention of the disease.
"Dr. Montagnier's research fa-cility will enhance San Francisco's already large cadre of committed AIDS research superstars, includ-ing Drs. Paul Volberding, Marcus Conant, Edward Murphy, and Jay Levy of UCSF, just to name a few," Brown said.

Montagnier plans to establish throughout the world, with locations in Europe, Africa, Asia, and the United States. Currently, there are centers in Paris and Ivory

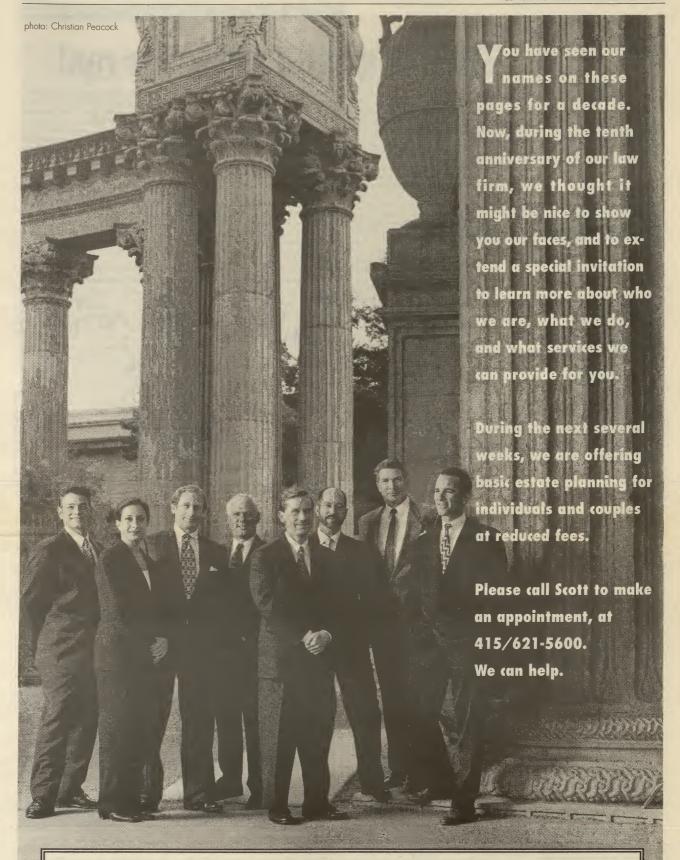
Coast, in western Africa.

The San Francisco-based
French Foundation for Medical Research and Education provides support to the city's medical community in the form of grants for research and educational projects.



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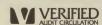




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Thanks giving time, for real

season that yawns before us, it is with much less depression than in recent years. For once, there's something to be truly years. For once, there's sometiming to be truly thankful for this Thanksgiving—the combination therapies that are extending the lives of people with HIV—and there's a reason to mark World AIDS Day as more than just another year wasted in a losing battle.

The feeling that we are beginning to get a grip on AIDS must be like *deja vu* to those who remember when the world learned how to eradicate polio. They must have felt a similar sense of awe, discovering that some fellow human beings are smart enough to know how to use test tubes and beakers and laboratory animals to come up

with an antidote to a rampant killer.

But there are also significant differences For one thing, the pharmaceutical companies that fought polio seemed more concerned with justifying their existence before God and humanity than to their stockholders. That does not appear to be the case these days, and the new AIDS breakthroughs are still far too expensive to help most of the people on the planet infected with HIV. It is impossible to predict how many decades may pass before the disease it truly conmay pass before the disease it truly con-quered around the world, but policymakers would do well to look at the example of tu-berculosis, rather than polio, when deter-mining the resources they want to commit. TB, like polio, was once considered a dis-ease of the past. Unfortunately, the world-wide commitment to its eradication was too slack – so instead of wiping it out, we mere-

slack – so instead of wiping it out, we mere-ty allowed it to become drug-resistant. It is easy to imagine the same thing happening with HIV without a strong international ef-fort to make therapy widely available.

(Of course, as we've said before, only prevention can globally eradicate HIV for now; medicines may work in individual human bodies, but that slow, expensive, and difficult process is no substitute for safer sex and safer drug use.)

Now is the time for anyone who wonders about their own serostatus to find out for sure: it's not like ten years ago when the only test available was of question able benefit and almost unlimited peril In those days some feared, and with good reason, a positive test result would get them locked up in a quarantine camp designed by **Editorial**

Lyndon La Rouche or Jesse Helms. Times have changed, however, and we know now that early intervention makes a huge difference in life quality and duration,

so there is no reason to avoid getting tested.

Anyone who is confused about so much

good news in such a short time (and who wonders why there is no "standard of care" yet devised) may want to read care yet devised) may want to read the impressive articles on the subject by Bob Roehr and Stephen LeBlanc, on pages 22-23. They will add a lift to your Thanksgiving that will beat any amount of Aunt Edna's candied yams.

One more thing: if all this good news puts you in a charitable news puts you in a charitable mood – and it should – you might want to share your happiness by helping with Tender-loin Tessie's Thanksgiving Feast for the less fortunate. Details are on page 14.

See you at the march Wednesday!



Get your tickets for the Milk wagon - and do it now!

by Elliott Tucker

s a Texan, I feel fortunate to have atts a lexan, I feel fortunate to have at-the dead the San Francisco premiere of the opera Harvey Milk on November 9th. This opera can literally change the be-liefs and invigorate the spirits of anyone who sees it. Everyone involved with this opera and its San Francisco production is to be congratulated for its excellence and commended for their courage in commission-ing the work, since modern operas are frenently not well attended – especially newer orks about such controversial subjects. Unfortunately, *Harvey Milk* ticket sales are

apparently below expectations. Which brings me to more discouraging information.

The San Francisco Opera says there are no plans to videotape or to telecast this season's production of *Harvey Milk*. Furthermore, there are no plans to revive it next season. The reason, I was told, is the general "lack of inreason, I was told, is the general fact of in-terest by both the San Francisco Opera's cor-porate sponsors and by the San Francisco gay and lesbian community. Without a commer-cially available video, the *Harvey Milk* born in San Francisco on September 9 will most likely die in a San Francisco Opera closet after its last performance of the season on November 30. Why? Well, if each of the opera's scheduled eight San Francisco premiere performances were sold out, only around 21,000 people would see the opera, since the maximum capacity of the theatre is about 2,500 per per-

formance Yes, Teldec is appar-**Guest Opinion**

ently going to release an audio-only CD of the opera, but complete opera CD sets frequently sell less than 10,000 sets. So without video, only around 30,000 people are like ly to have an opportunity to see or hear the San Francisco premiere production! This is



Harvey Milk: that's the ticket.

a tragedy, since only a videotape will enable this opera to be seen by a sufficient number of individuals in order for it to bring about the positive worldwide social change which

I believe it is capable of producing. It's clear that chances of a videotape are slim at best, but I cannot think of a more fitting legacy to Harvey Milk the man or to San Francisco. If

there is to be any hope of a video of the San Fran-cisco production, it will

be up to gay and lesbian
San Franciscans to make it happen by immediately working with the Opera, its
board, staff, artists, unions, potential corporate sponsors, etc. And even if funding were obtained, there is no guarantee that

the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the Public Broadcasting Service (who usually telecast one San Francisco Opera production each year) would even agree to telecast it since CPB has had its federal funding recently reduced for reasons which include broadcasting programs about lesbians and gays.

My life partner and two friends will be with me in San Francisco to see the November 24th performance of *Harvey Milk*. My advice to San Franciscans is to get tickets now through whatever means necessary near your plastics hock your ware to sail the - use your plastic; hock your watch; sell the BMW. Just see it and be rejuvenated.

Then, maybe a way might be found to get this production videotaped so that the rest of the world will come out for equality for all peoples.

LETTERS

The next cut?

Tom Ammiano (who has done much good) and his wanting monitors in sex clubs: There are! And they scare the hell out of you.

Everyone telling us what to do – and it's really none of their damned business. When will they suggest we be castrated? That's obviously the next step (aventually)

(eventually).

I know some absolutely terrific lesbians, but I wouldn't be a good one!

Chuck Kennedy San Francisco

Transsexuals and GID

Transsexuals in Oregon now have protection against discrimination in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodation based upon Oregon state law, which prohibits discrimination against individuals with a disability, including "a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits life activities only as a result of the attitude of others toward such impairment."

The National Center for Lesbian Rights and the

The National Center for Lesbian Rights and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission are campaigning to eliminate the American Psychiatric Association's diagnosis of Gender Identity Disorder, citing unsubstantiated claims that hundreds of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered youth are hospitalized each year with GID. This campaign threatens the legal rights of Oregon transsexuals: without the diagnosis for transsexualism, we will cease to have a recognized mental disorder and will no longer be protected by the state law prohibiting

mental disorder and will no longer be protected by the state law prohibiting discrimination on the basis of disability. Transsexuals in Oregon are adamantly opposed to psychiatric treatment and/or hospitalization of queer youth to change sexual orientation or gender identity. We are, however, equally opposed to the abuse and neglect of transsexual youth and adults which would result from the loss

and adults which would result from the loss of the only medical diagnosis on which sex-reassignment proce-dures are prescribed for transsexualism.

Margaret Deirdre O'Hartigan Portland, OR

Callous history

I'm writing to comment on the actions – or lack thereof – on the part of the Gay and Lesbian Histor-ical Society of Northern California. In particular, Jim Dugan, heading the oral history project. In late 1995 or early 1996, I met with Mr. Dugan and began to relate my memories of the Castro and development of the gay community in the late 1970s and early 1980s. At that time I gave him a very extensive collection of T-shirts and memorabilia that I had collected or was T-shirts and memorabilia that I had collected or was involved in. As a businessman and gay activist during that period, I felt that I had a unique contribution to make to an ongoing history project. Mr. Dugan used many professional-sounding, history-type words to indicate that his organization, and he in particular would handle this with a high degree of professionalism. Unfortunately, it has turned out to be anything but that. Phone calls are not returned, the material that I have given him has not been treated with respect or proper care. spect or proper care.

I am writing to warn others that the Gay and Les-bian Historical Society of Northern California can not be trusted to handle either property or oral his-tory with the required degree of respect.

John Cailleau

Sporting pictures

In response to Jim Provenzano's article "View from the dugout": Well, excuse me (with hugs and kisses); I loved your commentary, especially the latter half of it from the point "Why the crankiness?" onward. Right on! (Excuse the lack of a hipper exclamation, if

there is one.)

However, I do have one request: please don't hesitate to print a nice robust gay sports picture like the one you printed with your article. A picture is truly worth a thousand words (that's what attracted me to your article), and I already know you won't feel obligated to give scores, statistics, or anything else incidental that you don't care about; if you included the simple caption "for the girls in the office," that would be enough for me. Pictures like that are pleasant reminders (to some of us) that we aren't as isolated as we may feel.:) we may feel. :)

> Jeff Goring San Jose, CA

Send signed, preferably typewritten letters to the editor to: The Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco CA 94103. If you fail to keep them short and to the point we'll edit them down or ignore them entirely. Do not fax them.

Emerging leadership

I'm writing to thank the 7,813 voters who voted for me and to applaud the efforts of the other 26 candidates for the Board of Supervisors who had the courage and leadership of their convictions to put their ideas on the line – especially the other gay and lesbian candidates. With Bill "I can't keep my word" Clinton and Willie "If there's no profit in it, I can't fix "Brown in office, it's even more critical that visions. Brown in office, it's even more critical that vision ary, ethical, and honest leadership similar to that of the late Harvey Milk emerge to give us all hope for a better future. Thanks again to everyone who helped on my \$1,000 campaign!

Shawn O'Hearn San Francisco

Appointing Margo

One of the highlights of this past election is how close Margo St. James came to being elected supervisor. Margo represents the best of our city and those who have no voice. We still have a chance to put her who have no voice. We still have a chance to put her on the board when Kevin Shelley takes office in Sacramento in December. I urge people of our community to put pressure on "Da Mayor" by writing him at 401 Van Ness or calling his number and requesting that he appoint Margo to the Board in December.

Secondly, in the last few weeks there has been a di-alogue over the homeless in the Castro. I wonder how much of the negative attitude to those who have less

than we stems from our own feelings about ourselves, and our own fears. For the most part our dislike of someone or something is an expression of our own feelings about ourselves. Rather than pointing our fingers at others, let's look at ourselves and ask, "What are these expressions saying about ourselves?" The Castro for me is

a place of safety, in a world that has not offered me safety. I would hope it would be a beacon of safety for all the "have

nots" of this world.

Mailstrom

Fr. Christian River Sims San Francisco

Republican consolation prize?

In light of the passing of Prop 209, I urge Mayor In light of the passing of Prop 209, 1 urge Mayor Brown to appoint a non-represented minority in San Francisco to replace Kevin Shelley on the Board of Supervisors. I recommend Manny Rosales be appointed to replace Mr. Shelly, not because he is Latino, rather he is the most qualified Republican.

Republicans make up 17% of San Francisco voters, we there he and in 16 years, we there he are the Proposition of t

Republicans make up 17% of San Francisco voters, yet there has not been one on the board in 16 years. When Brown said in his inaugural speech, "There are no Republicans here," I thought, "I'm here, I'm Republican and I do not need to be openly discarded by our elected officials." We need Manny Rosales to be our representative. The Board of Supervisors is a paid position, and I believe it is an act of discrimination to purposefully avoid balancing out the board. Republicans may never earn a seat on the board, because San Francisco voters are 83% Democrats Even though this is a non-partisan office, as a Super-

Even though this is a non-partisan office, as a Supervisor candidate I have learned that a legitimate run at the office is indeed partisan.

San Francisco voters overwhelmingly did not sup-port Prop. 209, and Mayor Brown should show us the benefits of giving unrepresented groups a chance, and appoint Manny Rosales to the Board of Supervisors.

Scott Durcanin

Shrinking from human rights

When forced to discuss the issue, President Clinwhen forced to discuss the issue, President Chin ton likes to brag about his having done more than any other president for gay issues. Uh huh? Actually, Clin-ton stumbled into the gay rights arena, admitting to Mr. Mixner, his former friend, that he didn't realize that "they really hate you." Some Rhodes Scholar, eh? Once burned over the military's gay policy, the president's position on gay rights has withered on the vine.

It wasn't what Clinton did, but was what gay rights

It wasn't what Clinton did, but was what gay rights pioneers did that gave the president the social milieu, where the possibility of public discussion of gay issues was made politically and socially possible.

The president shrank from the major human rights issue of the 1990s, which could have put his presidency on the map of history. Kennedy and Johnson stuck their political necks out for civil and human rights. Clinton waffled and caved on the major civil rights issue of his time and administration.

Unfortunately, the president merely did more than any other president had done (took a beating from his generals over military gay rights and, chameleon-like, ducked gay marriage rights for political expediency) — not much, nothing really. Nothing plus nothing is still zero. Clinton used the gay agenda as the Sister Souljah of 1996 wedge politics.

Rand Knox San Rafael, CA



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Exploiting health for hate

In response to "ACT UP/SF and 'Fat Cat' Pat" let-

ter (11/7):
Thank you to ACT UP/SF for your valiant, surely insightful social action on behalf of our well-being as HIV-positives (throwing cat shit). Now may we please, please, please have your superior permission to read what we want to? To make our very own treat-

ment decisions?

May I please have your esteemed respect in using my not "otherwise healthy" body as an experiment, as

Please don't throw cat shit on our freedom or our intelligence, or our friends. Please don't exploit our health for hate.

> A. Heath San Francisco

Battle cry

David Pasquarelli's analysis of the state of AIDS is

clear and right on!

The lamp of his anger lights up the connections, exposing the deadly truths. Ghouls, murderers, and well-intentioned half-wits create and sustain the maze of AIDS "messages," blurring the only constant: Take

the Deadly Drugs.

David's persistent courage in naming and confronting the powers-that-be is a gift to us all!

The white coats have so many gripped in their spell of fear. With so many of our warriors dead and gone, Pasquarelli's battle cry is even braver!

Tim Gnabasik San Francisco

Phony altruism, senseless attack

I was sickened and saddened to learn from you last week of the senseless attack on the Director of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation by ACT UP[/SF]. Increasingly, it seems the melodrama of San Francisco politics is utterly without soul, compassion, or even

This is a far cry from the passion, poetry, and power from which ACT UP was founded. Only last month New York was witness to a prideful ACTion with the symbolic scattering of ashes. But ACT UP's with the symbolic scattering of ashes. But ACT UP's demonstrations have also been more than metaphoric: they proved part of a groundswell of activism which forced Reagan to utter AIDS in public after more than a half decade of denial; to hasten the FDA to test and approve drugs rather than allow increasing numbers of women and men to die; and to keep up the pressure for research funding increases, particularly of Clinton's Administration.

I would likely not be alive today, 11 years after diagnosis, without in part the bold invention of both ACT UP and local HIV/AIDS intervention organizations. The new fascist tactics of ACT UP only further remind me why I left the City for the burbs six years

remind me why I left the City for the 'burbs' six years ago to reduce my stress: the phony altrusims and utter lack of humanity of many ghetto activists I encountered in my brief year in San Francisco left me more physically and emotionally unwell – isolated from my "community" – than I ever could imagine.

The power of our struggle to fight AIDS and HIV can only occur with the positive intervention of our communities, our government, our doctors, our loved ones. The cat-atastrophe of the recent local demonstration is only a cruel and chilling reminder of the hatred and destruction we lived and died through in more conservative times: a force which through in more conservative times: a force which threatens to be a cancer within, still today.

David E. Zink-Brody Mountain View, CA

AIDS, Inc.

Bravo to David Pasquarelli on his letter about Pat
Christen. Though you may not like his intemperate
style, everything he said about her is true.
Pat Christen is another overpaid (\$130,000 a year
at last rumor), HIV-negative heterosexual running an

AIDS Inc. front organization. Her scam should be terminated. She poses as a leader of an organization that helps HIV-positive individuals, but in reality it is only

neips HIV-positive individuals, but in reality it is only a front for the drug industry, and they get good returns on their investment.

I've had AIDS for four years now, and I avail myself of many of the wonderful organizations that truly help AIDS patients — Open Hand, Shanti, etc. But the AIDS Foundation offers nothing I need. I've been forced to join, just to receive other services, but a phone hotline and that "conflict of interest" publicaon BETA is all they offer me, and both deliver faithfully the drug company's propaganda. How many drug-induced deaths hang over their heads? Pat Christen has a lot to answer to, and a hair full

of cat shit is delightfully symbolic of how a lot of us think of her and her "conflict of interest" organiza-

Forest Baker San Francisco

[The editor responds: Delightful? Really?]

Twisted logic

Through a long, verbose letter David Pasquarelli manages to accuse the SFAF of being, to use his phrase, "unethical and downright murderous."

Using Mr. Pasquarelli's twisted logic, let me see what seems the seems to be a seem to be a seem

Using Mr. Pasquarents what comes up:
Mr. Pasquarelli is in charge of ACT UP/SF. ACT
UP/SF wants PWAs to stop taking anti-viral medication. Stopping anti-viral medication would mean a
slow agonizing death for many people. Mr. Pasquarell
i wants many people to have a slow agonizing death.
Mr. Pasquarell is able to pick and choose his re-

Mr. Pasquareiii is able to pick and choose his resources in order to back up his viewpoint. What is interesting is what he hides. Mr. Pasquarelli is very adept at using the notion that a little knowledge can be dangerous. There are plenty of authoritative medical studies which show antiviral combo really does benefit PWAs. Anyone who has a friend (and I seri-ously doubt that Mr. Pasquarelli has any) or acquain-tance taking the antiviral combo has probably sea how miraculous a recovery a person can make, even ignoring the viral load and T-cell count which Mr.

It is truly sad that a person with such a narrow, rigid viewpoint can disrupt meetings of people who want to learn as much about what is going on as possible. If Mr. Pasquarelli has a valid point of view, doesn't it seem strange that he can only get a hearing through anti-social behavior?

> Paul Wever San Francisco

ACT UP/SF's shit list

I've just finished reading about David Pasquarelli throwing feces in someone's face and ACT UP/San Francisco's continuous slandering of AZT, D4T, 3TC and protease inhibitors.

and protease inhibitors.
What is their problem? Are they blind? Ignorant?
Or possibly a combination of the two?
I am a 29-year-old HIV+ man who was on the
verge of full-blown AIDS 21 months ago. In March
1995 I was arrested and incarcerated at County Jail

1995 I was arrested and incarcerated at County just #2, 850 Bryant St. in SF. The reason for my arrest is irrelevant, but my road back to good health is not! The S.F. County Jail HIV specialist, Dr. Milton Estes, started me on AZT when my T-cells were 231, and within six months my count had risen to over 500 and my cell ratio percentage had climbed from 16% to 20%! As soon as D4T was made available, Dr. Estes added that to my medication regimen along with acy-colvir, and soon after that 3TC was added also. I've recently had a viral load performed, and after

undergoing triple anti-retroviral therapy, my viral load was under 500, which is an undetectable level with the test being used. Also, my cell percentage is up to 25%, and my T-cells have remained in the 400-to-500 range for the last 15 months. I feel great, I weigh over 200 lbs. at 6'2" tall, and I have plenty of

energy!
So I'll reiterate the question: What is ACT UP/SF's problem with if not life-saving drugs, at least life-im-proving and -lengthening drugs that have proven to

work?
I'd like to say, last but not least: Anyone who
throws potentially disease-causing feces in a person's
face deserves to spend a little time at CJ#2, 850 Bryant
St. themselves!

Kevin Dean #1568019 D-7 County Jail #2 San Francisco

Spanking and no supper

David Pasquarelli's letter attempts to justify un-conscionable behavior that tells more about his own

conscionable behavior that tells more about his own rage and mental state than the treatment issues it is supposed to illuminate.

If I get Pasquarelli's point, he thinks the AIDS Foundation's advice is suborned by being in line with current medical opinion. Since he disapproves of that opinion, dumping cat box litter in another person's face becomes a legitimate expression of outrage.

I watched my lover die a painful death from a combination of what is now called wasting syndrome and PCP before AZT and other current treatments

and PCP before AZT and other current treatments were available. I doubt that my lover would have characterized these treatment options, and the people who try to make them known, as "drug thugs."

Pasquarelli's individual decision not to use these

treatments is his own business. It may even be necessary for him to let other people know what he thinks (although it would be helpful if he had credentials). It

not appropriate to try to silence discussion.

I was a spoiled child, and my mother used to send me to bed with a spanking and no supper after tirades like Pasquarelli's. That treatment can't be applied to him or his group, but they can be ignored, which is what is recommended for spoiled children. And they can be prosecuted for criminal assault, which is what I recommend to Pat Christen.

> Robert Siverling San Francisco

B-1 Bob bombs out

by Wayne Friday

hough it will be another few days (November 26) before election officials in Orange County finish the drawn-out bal-lot count in the 46th Congres-sional District race, the incumbent Republican, notorious ho-mophobe Robert "B-1 Bob" Dornan appears to have been defeated by Democratic challenger Loretta Sanchez, by less than a Dornan, not a gracious loser, is now crying "fraud," claiming that "non-legal" voters (particularly those with Hispanic surnames) have stolen the election from him.

Representative Dornan, running for a tenth House term, seems unable to believe that his former constituents in the once heavily Republican Orange County could vote to oust him, especially in favor of a "moderate" 36-year-old woman. Known for his vicious, often unhinged remarks (which embarrassed many of his fel-**Our Man Friday**

low Republi-cans), Dornan, who some-

who some-times fills in as host for **Rush Limbaugh**, regu-larly referred to President **Bill Clinton** as a "draft-dodging womanizer," once called Russian TV commentator Vladimir Poster a "disloyal, betraying little Jew," and branded women ac-Jew," and branded women ac-tivists in his district who cam-paigned against him "lesbian spearchuckers" who wanted him defeated because of his anti-gay

Dornan, a declared candidate for president this year who re-ceived few votes in early GOP primaries and neglected to visit his home district for months at a time, is now ironically about to be time, is now ironically about to be out of his old job as well. Election officials have stated that the counting of a few absentee and provisional ballots would probably not change the present outcome, meaning Dornan will most likely be tagged the official loser next week. next week.

next week.

Evidencing a severe case of sour grapes, Dornan has promised a recount or a House investigation in the event of his loss. B-1 Bob would no doubt have to pay for a recount himself; the GOP is said to be very much against footing the bill for such a move. Dornan would have done better to have taken Sanchez's candidacy seriously, spent less candidacy seriously, spent less time "running for President," and put more effort into raising funds (the enterprising Sanchez out-spent him, \$600,000 to \$400,000).

In Washington, those GOP members of Congress who had been the butt of Dornan's nasty outbursts in the past were said to be privately smiling at his defeat. Representative-elect Sanchez, in the capital for a ten-day freshman orientation, impressed even Speaker **Newt Gingrich** (the new, nicer Newt), who told reporters, "I certainly was happy to meet Ms. Sanchez. I thought she was a very attractive person. She has a real personality, and she's a person who seemed very interested in

working and getting things done."

If the vote tally does indeed hold up and Sanchez is declared the winner next week, Orange County voters will have done themselves – and the country – a huge favor by replacing the hate-ful Dornan. One thing's for sure:



Bob Dornan's done; Loretta Sanchez has just begun.

the race was heavily influenced by

a record turnout of Hispanic voters, making Orange County no longer the bastion of all-white, conservative Republicanism it once was.

One last irony:
while Dornan was

facing defeat in the 46th District, the man he defeat-ed for that House seat in

1984, Jerry Patterson, was making a political comeback by winning a seat on the Board of Trustees of Coast Community College in Orange

Politics and people

With a couple of races still un-decided, it appears the Democrats will likely hold a 44-36 majority in will likely hold a 44-36 majority in the state Assembly, with the Dems also controlling the state Senate. **Pete Wilson**'s final two years as governor will *not* be smooth sail-

Incidentally, the new Assembly leadership breaks down this way: majority leader: **Sheila Kuehl**; speaker pro tem: East Bay Assem-blyman **Don Perata**; Rules Committee chair: SF Assemblyman Kevin Shelley; Assembly Caucus chair: SF Assemblywoman Carole Migden; Appropriations Committee chair: Dick Floyd. Real Sacramento power for both Shelley and Migden.

New judges from the

lesbian/gay community who will take their seats on the SF bench in January are Municipal Court January are Municipal Court Judge-elect **Kay Tsenin** and Supe-rior Court Judge-elect **Kevin Mc-Carthy**. Two very good choices! Senator **Barbara Boxer** has already started her '98 re-election

campaign. Some politicos predict that in an effort to appeal to more centrist voters (while maintaining her traditional liberal base), the senator will move more to the political center in the next two years. (Boxer was the only U.S. senator to receive a voting score of 100 percent by the liberal Americans for Democratic Action for 1996.) The best news for Boxer may be that the Republicans have a number of feisty candidates, who'll probably bloody themselves in a nasty primary fight for the honor

of taking her on.
Meanwhile, California State
GOP chair John Herrington has announced that he will seek to be-come the *national* GOP chair when the Republicans meet in January. However, better wait until the GOP committee takes another look at how poorly the party fared in the recent election here. Given that, Herrington here. Given that, Herrington would seem rather an odd choice. The once Republican Silicon

Valley is no more! Clinton carried Santa Clara County November 5 with 266,728 votes; **Bob Dole** with 266,/28 votes; Bob Dole
wasn't even close with 147,227.
The area not only rejected Dole,
but Gingrich as well, sending Representative Anna Eshoo (D) back
to the House by a 2-1 margin.
Gerrie Schipske, a lesbian ac-

tivist Democrat who narrowly lost a bid for a Long Beach area Assembly seat, is expected to remain in politics and run again another

Well, if you can afford it, what the hell! East Bay Congress-woman-elect **Ellen Tauscher**, a self-made millionaire, passed up the chartered buses used by other freshmen House members in D.C. last week and arrived (reportedly amidst some raised eyebrows) at the Capitol in a stretch limo. Tauscher, a moderate Demo, unseated Gingrich clone Representa-tive Bill Baker (R) in the 10th

Christian Coalition leader Pat Robertson, smarting at watching Bob Dole's defeat, warned the

Bob Dole's defeat, warned the GOP and voters in general that "we were not consulted in this campaign. We were peripheral, but that won't happen again."

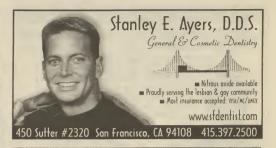
My Quote of the Week comes from former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders, speaking before 1,500 professional women in Silicon Valley. You may remember that Elders was attacked with a vengeance by Republicans and the religious right (and eventually booted out by Clinton) after she called for an acknowledgment of masturbation as a natural part of human sexuality that should be included in public school sex eduincluded in public school sex edu-cation classes. La Elders intoned: "Ninety percent of men mastur-bate, 80 percent of women mas-turbate, and the rest lie." The re-

turbate, and the rest lie." The re-mark brought prolonged laughter from the audience. Incidentally, Dr. Elders' new book, Joycelyn Elders, M.D.: From Sharecropper's Daughter to Sur-geon General of the United States of America (William Morrow & Co., \$24.95) is a must-read I com-

America (William Morrow & Co., \$24.95), is a must-read. I completed it in two days.

And here's royal renegade Fergie, the Duchess of York, on the persistent rumors of her ex-husband's Prince Andrew's gayness, or at least bisexuality: "There is absolutely no chance he can be gay.

A lat of people believe that assolutely not chance he can be gay. ... A lot of people believe that it's true [especially a few old Navy buddies, we hear tell], but it is categorically not true." Now that we've got the scoop on Andrew, we've got the scoop on Andrew, perhaps Fergie, who was seemingly on every talk and news show last week promoting her new autobiography as well as her children's books, will dish the dirt on her ex-hubby's younger brother, the theatre-loving, military-hating **Prince Edward.** ▼

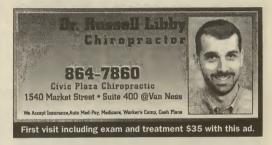


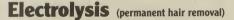
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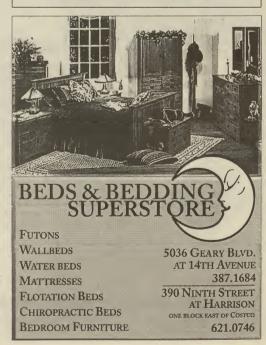
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Bound for gory

by Beth Elliott

ife being typically hectic, It's being typically hectic, I've been running a backlog of movies I want to see. That means on the big screen; home video just doesn't compare for setting a visual world in which one can get lost. Well, maybe it gives tiny multiplex screens a run for their money. But the restored version of Vertico, as seen in true wersion of *Vertigo*, as seen in true moviegoing style at the Castro, made a case for the proposition that Hollywood in the late '50s tried to use the big screen to advantage against competition from television. Those panoramic tourist shots of the Bay and sky-line, Muir Woods and Monterey's Lone Cypress certainly milked the medium. And let's face it, I love the captured glimpses of the San Francisco of my childhood – even as *Vertigo* made me realize we did too good a sales job on California.

Another movie I took great pains not to miss was *Bound*, the dyke noir thriller. And it rocked! I found it intelligently written, to the point the scripting became the point the scripting became transparent (too many gangster movies coast along on cliche). The lesbian content was beautifully matter-of-fact, and Gina Gershon and Jennifer Tilly were very believable in their roles. Actually, every character was, but you know what I mean: a sex scene that actually resembles my realife experience as opposed to some clueless director boy's wet dream. And their chemistry and tear. dream. And their chemistry and subsequent seduction were *très*

high-stakes scheme against the mob, and you've got my definition of a dyke-positive adrenaline-

of a dyke-positive adrenaline-revving flick that could do incred-ible box office among lesbians.

But hey, being lesbians, we've managed to find a way to create controversy over a step toward the visibility we're always demanding. Some women are upset by the graphic violence in Bound. And indeed, one sequence in par-ticular would give anyone the

There's always a buz around a movie or TV show with any significant lesbian content. Throw in a contro-versy, and the discussion can go on for months. Put that discussion on-line, and... well, and... well, let's just say I was really sur-prised to see

see

how quickly the thread died on a list I'm on, namely, once a couple of women expressed anger at seeing violence in a movie about lesbians.

My two cents was about accepting the violence as part of the situation – it's, like, a gangster movie – and rolling with it so I could enjoy following our protag-onists. I used *The Man Who Fell to* Earth and Blade Runner as examples of art that necessarily included violence and cruelty.

Someone posted back a question: how does one get to a place to be able to watch violence in movies? It's taken a while to organize my thoughts on this into words, which

go something like this: I don't like violent movies qua violent movies. Few of them are honest about violence. If I go to a movie like *Pulp Fiction*, it must be a well-crafted opportunity to watch sleaze and amorality from a distance. Such a movie has to do two things: one, teach me how sleazeballs behave so I can be forewarned and wary, aware of their psychology and tactics; and two, inure me to the fact there's a chance I may encounter one – like in the situation of a rape attempt – so I'll already be over the shock of realization and thus be better prepared to defend/extricate my-self. Oh, make that three: if I can watch a protagonist – preferably a female protagonist – work her way out of the predicament, I get a thrill from the drama and feel

empowered at the same time.
Think of Jodie Foster as Agent Starling in Silence of the Lambs. Not a subject I find entertaining, and incredibly gruesome to

watch. But if I could watch that and survive. I have more confidence that I could keep my wits in a gruesome, personally threaten-

a gruesome, personally threaten-ing situation.

In contrast, take Black Widow with Debra Winger and Theresa Russell. No overt violence in that movie; the gore was the junkie de-tective dead of an overdose. But frightening? Theresa Russell's char-acter set up two characters in lifeacter set up two characters in life-

destroying ways – it was the sleaze with far-reaching consequences that frightened the daylights out of me. What made this worth watching, as opposed to the Schwarzenegger shoot-em-ups I avoid, was that the characters were real peo-ple. When Russell realizes Winger's on to her, she walks the edge of panic like

Sapphistication even a coldblooded woman would do.

More overtly violent, but not a

gangster movie, was Alice Doesn't Live Here Anymore – at heart, and marketed as, a feminist flick. One moment of gore: Alice's bus driver husband shown dead in an accident. Moments of abject fear: the possessive boyfriend Alice has to escape. Way too many women find themselves in both situations: a loved one critically injured, a physically threat-ening partner. I don't recall anyone ening partner. I don't recal anyone suggesting avoiding this movie be-cause of its blood and gore. We experience the violence in movies vicariously (leaving aside,

movies vicariously (leaving aside, for purpose of discussion, those dramatic presentations whose themes hit too close to home – I'm sure there would be lots of votes out there for the non-violent made-for-TV Something About Amelia). Therefore, we can experience the jeopardy vicariously. Can this be useful? I think so. Isn't one of the first steps in a self-defense class getting over the need to deny that we may find ourselves in jeopardy? Watching a violent movie (where the violence is plot-driven, not vicarious) can violent movie (where the violence is plot-driven, not vicarious) can be a very useful gut check.

One can choose non-violent art over violent art as an aesthetic

preference – and risk missing strong, positive statements like the very gory Catch-22. Or one can see a range of movies that say something about the human con-dition and risk the occasional unpleasant scene. As women and les-bians, we might do well to lose some of our squeamishness. A strong stomach is a good thing for an Amazon to have. an Amazon to have.



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Mishima and the ultimate masturbatio

by David Bianco

his week in gay history:
Openly gay Japanese novelist
Yukio Mishima committed
ritual suicide with his lover at a
Japanese military headquarters
November 25, 1970.

November 25, 1970.

Yukio Mishima was one of Japan's most popular twentieth century novelists, whose writings include some of the first modern Japanese explorations of gay identity and gay subculture. His disturbing suicide in 1970 drew attention to his unwavel his locability. tention is unusual philosophy, which combined right-wing nationalism with the veneration of the male body and a fascination with violence.

Mishima was intensely proud to have descended from samurai warriors, and he aimed to make his life follow that of the ideal Japanese warrior, with a finely honed sense of both the martial and the fine arts. Although he generally looked down upon any-thing non-Japanese, even as a stu-dent he was a fan of the essays of

the previous century's gay literary savant, British writer Oscar Wilde.

Perhaps his most famous - and certainly his most personal - novel was Confessions of a Mask. Published in 1949, it told of a boy's growing awareness of both his ho-mosexuality and his fascination

growing awateriess of both in informosexuality and his fascination with sadomasochism. The protagonist's inability to make himself aroused by his girlfriend puzzled many postwar Japanese readers, some of whom considered the book to be an attempt at parody. Few recognized (until years later) its autobiographical nature Japan's first "coming out novel."

Two years later, Mishima published Forbidden Colors, a second novel with gay themes. This one, however, had a broader setting, introducing its readers to the diverse gay subculture in 1950s Tokyo, with its bars, cruising spots, and gay parties. One of the main characters is a gay man who uses a younger man to wreak vengeance on women who

wengeance on women who wronged him in the past. During the 1960s, Mishima continued to write, and to devel-op the philosophy that ultimately led to his violent death. He believed that the emperor was cen-tral to Japanese society, and indeed that no two people could love each other without first loving the emperor. He also believed that to live with honor meant to be prepared for war, to be unafraid of violence, and to be in-tensely loyal to one's colleagues. Sometimes, these beliefs had

Mishima led a ceremony for about a dozen university students in which all of them drew blood from their little fingers and poured it into a cup. They then used the blood as ink to sign their names to a pact. The ceremony finished with Mishima adding salt to the cup and drinking from the blood, after which each of the other students followed suit.

In his writing, Mishima frequently praised the Japanese samurai who ended their own samurai who ended their own lives by performing seppuku (also known as hara-kiri), a ritual form of suicide in which the warrior takes a short knife and disembowels himself, after which a fellow warrior cuts off his head. It became clear to many who read

his works that Mishima hoped to end his own life someday in such a fashion. Seppuku was clearly erotic for Mishima, who once called it (just months before his death) "the ultimate masturba-

However, Mishima felt that rit-However, Mishima felt that ritual suicide was not honorable unless one's body was in peak physical condition. Though he was skinny as a young man, he started a strict regimen of bodybuilding at age 30, which he continued through his death at age 45, by which time he was extremely. which time he was extremely muscled. With such a body, Mishima posed for many erotic

Japanese gangster film.

But Mishima is probably best remembered for the last day of his life. On November 25, 1970, along with some of his right-wing na-tionalist followers, he stormed a Japanese military headquarters

(the army was then called the "Japan Self-Defense Force") and demanded to speak to the troops outside. When they assembled, he outstand which may assembled, he exhorted them to rise up and overthrow Japan's postwar pacifist regime and replace it with a government that once again emphasized military might. When the troops laughed at and heckled Mishima he returned to an office inside, where he shouted his undying loyalty to the emperor and proceeded to cut open his ab-domen with his sword. His protégé (widely believed to be his lover), Masakatsu Morita, then cut off Mishima's head and com-mitted seppuku himself. V

David Bianco, M.A., teaches gay and lesbian history at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. AriBianco@aol.com.



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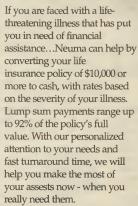
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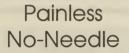
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Turning Point does gay marriage a good to

by Don Romesburg, GLAAD/SF media resource center manager

n November 7, ABC's Turn-ing Point looked at the issue of same-sex marriage by featuring four gay and lesbian couples and their families, leading up to and following their mar-riage ceremonies. The show, by focusing on the love and emofocusing on the love and emotions involved, put gay marriage into an appropriate context without clouding the issue with antigay hate-mongering. One ceremony was Jewish, one Episcopalian, and the other two were non-denominational, and the book explanded a controverse. show explored a controversy among the Episcopalian diocese that arose when ABC wanted to film the ceremony within the

church.
While most family members were supportive, several struggled to adjust to the idea of same-sex marriage. In the end, however, they embraced their gay and les-bian loved ones and endorsed their weddings. Even the one fun-damentalist Christian, who was completely opposed to her sister's marriage to another woman, and for that matter, her sister being a lesbian, attended the reception and told her sister that she loved

Most significantly, the program conveyed the love that the couples felt. It showed the all-important ceremonial kisses and emphasized that, whatever some people in society might feel, and whatever religious radical doom-sayers might say, these unions are based upon love and commit-

Congratulate Turning Point on finding an excellent angle to sen-sitively cover the misunderstood

issue of same-sex marriage. Contact: Turning Point, ABC, 77 West 66th Street, New York, NY 10023, e-mail: abcaudr@ccabc.com

Lesbian one of Us & Them

On October 28, Joe Pyle, the talk show host in the slice-of-life comic strip Us & Them, found out during a casual conversation that Kit, his producer, is a lesbian. Joe asked her if she ever thought of them as a married couple and remarked that they know every-thing about each other since they have worked together for so long. Kit quips, "Sheesh ... You sound just like my wife, Joe." After Kit's coming out, Us & Them had a week-long dialogue about gay issues, as Joe had many a conversa-tion with friends about how he

thought he knew everything about Kit. The conversations have provided humorous social commentaries on coming out and ho-mosexuality, as Joe explored his own feelings about discovering

bwh teelings about discovering that a co-worker is gay. Encourage Wiley Miller and Susan Dewar, the comic strip's creators, to continue featuring Kit and to develop her character

Contact: Wiley Miller and Susan Dewar, c/o Universal Press Syndicate, 4520 Main Street, Kansas City, M0 64111-7701, fax: 816. 932.6681, e-mail: joepyle@aol.com

And speaking of 'us' and 'them'

In the November 1 edition of the Washing-ton Post, columnist Donna Britt ton Post, columnist Donna Britt described coming to terms with her own homophobia and the re-alization that when straight peo-ple call gay people "them," it is the same as white people calling black people "them" to distance them-selves from the basic humanity of

others.

The column details the discomfort that she and those around her felt upon seeing the Melissa Etheridge/Julie Cypher "Having A Baby" Newsweek cover, and how many people simply shrug and say, "I just don't understand them." Britt notes, "As a black woman, I know about 'them.' The ultimate four-letter word, 'them' has unrivaled, unrec-'them.' The ultimate four-letter word, 'them' has unrivaled, unrecognized power to separate. It's the them thing, the easy thing, the thing that makes us feel wary of, or superior to, faceless folks whom we don't know."

She continues, "Just as many whites know better than to confess their ongoing struggle with

whites know better than to con-fess their ongoing struggle with racist feelings, few people publicly discuss their sense of gays as 'them.' Instead, we feign enlight-enment, make whispered jokes, or say nothing." She then describes several lesbian and gay people she has known, loved, and respected has known, loved, and respected in her life, and how, when it comes to a personal friend, the feeling of 'them' doesn't exist.

Britt sums up by saying, "Whoever they are, they're a lot like us doing what they must fee

like us, doing what they must for love in an us-against-them world."

Please commend the Washing-ton Post for a heartfelt, honest and thoughtful discussion of how per-sonal feelings of discomfort can translate into societal discrimina-

tion.
Contact: Leonard Downie, Editor-In-Chief, The Washington

Post, 1150 15th St. NW, Washington, DC, 20071, e-mail: web-

Sparks fly: education 1, stereotypes 0

Last week the new UPN (Universal Paramount Network) sit-com Sparks, starring James Avery and Robin Givens, took a comical swipe at all brands of stereo-

types. On its November 11 episode entitled "Good for the Gander," African-American attorney Maxey Sparks (Miguel A. Nunez, Jr.) crudely

attempts to turn on the openly gay judge, Judge Parker (Richard Bradford), when his defense of a hip-hop artist starts to go awry.

He unbuttons his shirt,
sprays on too much cologne,

swaggers around the court, winks at the judge and uses an effemiat the Judge and dess an eterminate lisp to address the entire court. This, and the announcement that the judge wants to see him alone in his chambers, is met with delight and laughter by the audience

In chambers, attempting to make the point that the defendant could not be recognized in a stocking mask, the judge hands Sparks stockings. Sparks, misun-derstanding and horrified, begins to put them on his feet. When the judge questions why he is putting the stockings there, Sparks screams, "I don't know how you like it!" The judge then turns the tables on not only Sparks but the audience, when he tells him that as an African-American he should know how hurtful and wrong

stereotypes are.

He asks how it feels when
Sparks sees an old movie that portrays blacks as lazy and stupid, and then proclaims to Sparks, "That's how I feel when you prance in my courtroom." The stunned audience's silence turns stunned audience's silence turns to boisterous applause as Sparks apologizes. Please thank UPN and Sparks for reminding its audience that all stereotypes are degrading. Contact: Lucie Salhany, President-CEO, UPN, 11800 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025, fax: 310.575.7201.

GLAAD promotes fair. accurate, and inclusive representation as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity. Contact GLAAD by email at glaad@glaad.org or by phone at (415) 861-2244. AlertLine: 1-800-GAY-MEDIA



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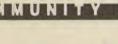


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Florists raise funds for Peninsula AIDS group

by Marv. Shaw

ontinuing to build on their basic maxim of the community, the AIDS Community Research Consortium (A.C.R.C.) joined with the Menlo Park shop Floral Arts to hold an open house fundraiser Friday, November 15.

The event was a part of A.C.R.C.'s ongoing efforts to make the Peninsula towns aware of the AIDS research work and patient care in their midst.

A.C.R.C works with PWAs in

researching new therapies – most of which involve using new single and combined medicines under completely voluntary and closely controlled experimental condi tions – and keeps the public aware of developments. A.C.R.C. Executive Director

Michael Edell and Craig Kozlows-ki, co-owner with Jeffrey Adair of Floral Arts, spoke with the B.A.R. about what it means to the work of the three-county (San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz) AIDS re-search and care organization and

how the affair developed.

Edell told the B.A.R. that
A.C.R.C.'s two equally important objectives are to make its research and care service better known through the area, and to make up for a financial slack at a time when the dominance of protease inhibitors' reputed therapeutic promise has led to a lag in other new research projects.

The financial shortfall is a periodic phenomenon in the re-



(L to r): Craig Kozlowski, Michael Edell and Jeffrey Adair.

search effort, according to Edell.
Originally, the consortium was financed mostly through grants
from the federal government and
foundations. While such founding sources are still being used, he stated, some potentially productive research trials have not yet been funded, ironically because of the momentary effect of such developments as protease inhibitors. The community contributions help make up for the shortfall.

Edell emphasized that A.C.R.C. primarily bases patient cooperation on completely ex-plaining what a therapy is, and what it is intended to do. The prospective patient must under-stand and accept the conditions before committing to the experi-ment. Along with the cooperation there must often be some guarantee of necessary living conditions. Edell pointed out that with an estimated 18,000 persons living with HIV in the consortium's service area, the need for AIDS treat-ment research conducted through experimental trials is vital.

However, he made it clear that A.C.R.C.'s work also involves research in areas other than clinical trials. For instance, after learning that 75 percent of the female pathat 75 percent of the female patients were not showing up at the clinics where they were to get treatment, the group launched a psycho-social study to discover the barriers to therapy. Among the remedies was the hiring of a bilingual outreach worker, who is now reducing the barriers erected through fears of exploitation and even deportation.

It is for such objectives that the floral open house was held. Craig Kozlowski explained that the event began with a customer's

event began with a customer's suggestion to Adair, who is already on the fundraising board of

A.C.R.C.

The invitation-only event for the florists' friends and customers was catered by Joe and Jill Olivers of Just About Eating. The shop was specially decorated to feature Christmas decor.

Commenting on the current effort and his expectations, Edell paraphrased Winston Churchill: "It's not the end; it's not the beginning of the end; it's the end of the beginning."

For more information about A.C.R.C., call (415) 364-6563.

Turkey dinners abound for those in need

by Cynthia Laird

on't stay at home alone this Thanksgiving. Instead, on't stay at home alone this Thanksgiving. Instead, spend the afternoon enjoy-ing a plate filled with the tradition-al turkey, stuffing, all the fixings, and the warm company of others. At least two groups will be provid-ing community Thanksgiving dinners on Thursday, November 28. Equally important as the fine

food, after all, are the fine volun-teers, without whose people-power and grocery donations the dinners wouldn't be possible. And at Bay Area Reporter press time, more volunteers are still needed to

more volunteers are still needed to help cook and serve the meals.
Tenderloin Tessie Holiday Dinners, Inc. is having its "Free Thanksgiving Dinner for Everyone." A.L. Allen, board secretary, invites people in the community to come join in celebrating the holiday. The dinner will be held from 1 to 4 nm at the First Ini. from 1 to 4 p.m. at the First Uni-tarian Universal Church of San Francisco, 1187 Franklin Street at

Geary.

"We take pride in giving a delicious dinner and treat everybody as if they are somebody special they are." Allen said. because they are," Allen said. "Everybody is welcome. The homeless, handicapped, seniors, and those who just need a place to go to celebrate Thanksgiving." The congregation at St. Francis Lutheran Church in San Francisco

is also hosting a community Thanksgiving dinner from noon to 2 p.m. The church is located at 152

Church Street across from Safeway.
Donated food and volunteer help are needed for Tenderloin Tessie's dinner. Allen said people are needed to work in the kitchen and dining room. Food can be dropped off at the Arlington Hotel, located at 448 Ellis Street. People should write Allen's name on the items, he added. ▼

People interested in helping out at the Tenderloin Tessie dinner can call Allen at (415) 921-5026. To volunteer at the St. Francis dinner, call (415) 621-2635.



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Napa dance-a-thon to keep teens educated, SAFE

by Claudia Figueroa

apa Valley's HIV Network and the traveling theatrical troupe SAFE (Stopping AIDS First through Education, a bilingual organization providing Napa Valley youth with HIV education in the form of dramatic presentation) will present the First Annual "Safety Dance" this Saturday, November 23 at Napa Valley Expo's Cabernet Hall.

The AIDS Dance-a-thon will include performances by SAFE, San Francisco's Free Spirit Choir,

San Francisco's Free Spirit Choir, and DJ Rotten Robbie, who will spin a mixture of disco, club, and Latin beats. Captain Condom will also be there to spread the word

No alcohol will be served, but participants will be able to enjoy the "Crash Pad" in Merlot Hall, the "Crash Pad" in Merlot Hall, where complimentary beverages and snacks will be served throughout the evening. AIDS in-tervention information will also be available, as well as games and a raffle. All proceeds from the event will benefit SAFE and the HIV Network

The HIV Network provides medical and psychosocial case management for people living with HIV and AIDS. HIV Network Development Director and event

coordinator Tom Fuller told the

coordinator Tom Fuller told the Bay Area Reporter the purpose of the event is to keep SAFE running and continuing to educate young adults about HIV prevention.

"Sometimes young people feel that they are invincible and that it won't happen to them," he said, "but really, it could happen to anyone."

anyone."

Although the event is geared toward young adults, all ages are encouraged to attend. The action starts at 7 p.m. and ends at midnight. Pledges of \$50 are requested, but donations will also be accepted. Pledge sheets are available at the HIV Network, Alexis Baking Company, and the SAFE offices at Aldea Family Support Center. ▼

Napa Valley Expo's Cabernet Hall is located at 575 3rd Street in downtown Napa. For more information, call (707) 255-9024 or (707) 253-0868. CONSIDER



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The SAFE traveling theatrical troupe will be featured Nov. 23

East Bay gay business group to host annual holiday, awards party

by I.A. Kisselman

he East Bay Business and Professional Alliance will be hosting its annual holiday party and awards evening this Sat-urday, November 23 in downtown Oakland.

This year's event will also be a mixer for the local gay, lesbian, and bisexual business communi-ty, said Robert Fuentes, president of the Alliance. The San Francis-co-based Lavender Pages will coco-based Lavender Pages will co-hosting the party. That company has been active in working with the Alliance, and features a listing of members in its semiannual Lavender Pages directory. Repre-sentatives will be available to talk about World Wide Web sites. "This is an opporturity for the

"This is an opportunity for the community to acknowledge its success and continue to create community through visibility," Fuentes said.

The Alliance was formed in 1994 when several people decided

there needed to be a way for the East Bay gay and gay-friendly business community to meet one another and support each other's business endeavors. The lavender chamber of commerce, as it's come to be called, has grown from 75 members a couple of years ago to 130 members, Fuentes said in an interview earlier this year.

The evening's program will also include the presentation of awards for the outstanding busi-ness of the year and outstanding media support. There will be hors d'œuvres, a no-host bar, DJ, and

Tickets for the holiday party are modestly priced, at \$10 for Al-liance members and \$15 for nonmembers.

The Alliance's holiday party starts at 7 p.m. at the Waterfront Plaza Hotel, 11 Washington St. at Embarcadero. For information, call (510) 287-2571



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Sex club operation restricted

Power Exchange alleges selective enforcement

by Liz Highleyman

judicial hearing was held Friday, November 15 after the city moved to shut down the Power Exchange Main Station at 74 Otis Street, a sex club which caters primarily to gay men, for alleged fire code violations. (Owner Mike Powers also operates the Power Exchange Substa-tion on Harrison Street, which caters primarily to heterosexual and transgendered patrons.)
In the wake of a recent flurry of

media attention relating to pro-posed legislation to regulate the city's sex clubs, the Power Ex-change received a visit from the

Fire Department on October 26, allegedly following unspecified "complaints." The club was issued a citation for overcrowding, for a citation for overcrowding, for having more than 49 people in the nearly 30,000-square-foot space. That visit was followed by a full inspection by Fire Captain Edward De Cossio, Senior Building Inspector Rafael Torres-Gil, and Deputy City Attorney Jeanine Marie-Victoire on November 14. Claiming that the site was too dangerous to that the site was too dangerous to allow continued operation, the city called for an emergency hearing to close the club.

close the club.

The requested hearing was held the following day. Dana Peterson, attorney for building owner Jimmy Jen, and Powers were presented with the written allegations less than an hour before the basics with them. fore the hearing, giving them in-adequate time to prepare their case. De Cossio, Torres-Gil, and Marie-Victoire claimed that the club was the site of numerous safety violations, including im-proper stairwell doors, illegal locking hardware, exposed wiring, and unsafe partitions. Marie-Victoire sought a temporary restraining order, calling the club "a public nuisance" and "a disaster waiting to happen."

Powers countered that after a previous inspection by the Fire

Department, the club (then known as the Playground, under the ownership of Deno Fessler)

Power play: Mike Powers (right) is "willing to spend a lot of money to make sure we're left alone."

was granted preliminary approval in January 1996 for an occupancy limit of 820 patrons on three floors. Powers claims that final approval is being held up by the city. Powers and Power Exchange General Manager Konstantine Laskaris stated that repairs are underway at the club, and that the derway at the club, and that the alleged violations are either nonexistent or could easily be brought into compliance, making it unnecessary to close the club.

The city offered Powers a com-promise whereby instead of closing the club entirely, he would be allowed to operate on the entry level floor only with a maximum of 49 patrons, provided he made changes to the doors, aisles, and

wiring. Powers rejected the deal, noting that the basement and sec-ond floor of the club were pershall noor of the club were perfectly safe; he recently installed a \$18,000 sprinkler system in the non-combustible building. Powers stated that he would be willing to agree to a deal that allowed him to agree to a uear that anowed film to operate with a maximum of 49 patrons on each of three floors, for a total of 147. After a lengthy recess, Judge William Cahill (who in August issued the restraining order against the Cannabis Buyers Club) handed down a judgment that the club must operate according to the restrictions proposed by the city – that is, with a limit of 49 patrons total.

Homophobic inspectors

Although the city has been aware of the state of the premises aware of the state of the perimsus at 74 Otis Street since January, it was not until the recent sex club legislation controversy that it moved to limit the club's operations. Powers believes his club is being subject to selective enforcebeing subject to selective enforce-ment because it is a venue for pub-lic gay sexual activity. He claims that if held to the standards being imposed on his club, "every night-club in the city would be closed." During the inspection on No-vember 14, according to Powers and Jen, De Cossio made several derogatory, howpopholic, com-

and jen, De Cossio made several derogatory homophobic comments and jokes regarding the club's customers and the nature of the activity at the club; De Cossio denied the allegations. De Cossio also had a hand in the events lead-ing to the 1995 New Year's Eve raid on a Visual AIDS benefit on Harrison Street. On Monday, Tom Ammiano put forth a Board of

next page

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Planning council develops draft figures for CARE funds

Decreases evident in nearly every category

by Cynthia Laird

roposed allocations for 17 HIV/AIDS service cate-gories were discussed by members of the Mayor's HIV Health Services Planning Council Monday, November 18. The group is expected to finalize fund-ing prioritization at its November

ing prioritization at its November 25 meeting.
An estimated \$33.4 million in federal Ryan White CARE Act funds is expected for 1997-98, a reduction of about \$4 million from 1996-97 funding, according to the AIDS Office. The money is used to fund a variety of HIV/AIDS programs in San Francisco, San Mateo, and Marin counties, which comprise the Eligible Metropolitan Area (EMA).

gible Metropolitan Area (EMA).

Making funding cuts has been difficult for the council. If the reductions are made equally, each of the 17 service categories for San Francisco services would be cut by 16.5 percent. In the proposal developed Monday, some service categories were not cut by 16.5 percent, most notably primary medical care.

medical care.
Others were cut more than the
16.5 percent figure, most notably
the substance abuse category.
Five small groups of council
members devised the proposed

funding for the 17 service categories as part of the prioritization process. The small groups were facilitated by staff from the Support

In order of service category priority for 1997-98, the draft funding amounts are as follows. Current figures for 1996-97 are in

parentheses.

Primary medical care, \$6.7 million (\$7.2 million); housing and housing-related services, \$4.9 million (\$5.6 million); food and home-delivered meals, \$1.3 million (\$1.5 million); dental care, \$1 million (\$1.1 million); home million (\$1.1 million); home healthcare, \$1.6 million (\$1.8 million); substance abuse therapy, \$4.6 million (\$6.4 million); case management, \$1.4 million (\$1.7 million); residential hospice, \$600,000 (\$790,000); mental health therapy, \$2.8 million (\$3.5 million); client advocacy, \$700,000 (\$850,000); transportation, \$80,000 (\$90,000); day and respite care, \$400,000 (\$550,000); respite care, \$400,000 (\$560,000); buddy/companion services, \$790,000 (\$1 million); rehabilitation, \$630,000 (\$860,000); system-wide development, \$190,000 (\$360,000); adoption/foster care, \$160,000 (\$220,000); and transla-tion, \$30,000 (\$30,000).

Several council members said the reason for the proposed reduction for substance abuse, the most significant decrease, is be-cause of the city's recent empha-sis on establishing a program of treatment on demand for sub-

Funding for San Mateo and Marin counties was also approved by the council. They voted 23-0, with three abstentions from the Marin and San Mateo council members, to keep funding for the two counties at the same level. San Mateo is expected to receive about \$2.1 million, while Marin anticipates about \$1.3 million.

The money is distributed to the two counties and then allocat-

ed to programs based on deci-sions by county boards.

The funding levels were main-tained at the current amount because both counties have already taken reductions in CARE funds proportionate to what San Francisco is facing now, explained Gene Copello, chief of Health and Prevention Services at the city's AIDS Office. ▼

The planning council meets Monday, November 25 beginning at 4:30 p.m. in the sixth floor conference room at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 10 United Nations Plaza, at Market and Seventh streets.

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Sex clubs

previous page

Supervisors resolution requesting that the Fire Department investi-gate the allegations of selective en-forcement and misconduct during the inspection, and called for a hearing on issues of selective code enforcement against certain busi-

Ammiano was the sponsor of the proposed sex club legislation that was put on hold last week, after Mayor Willie Brown and the Department of Public Health (DPH) withdrew their support. Several club owners had sought such legislation in part to ensure the existence of consistent rules and inspection procedures in the hopes of avoiding harassment by city officials. Although Ammiano

has not yet decided on his next steps regarding the legislation, he expressed his anger that the mayor had "freaked out" when confronted with an issue involving gay sexuality and "pulled the rug out" from under the DPH and the Coalition for Healthy Sex, the group of sex club owners, party operators, and HIV prevention educators that drafted the proposed legislation.

Ammiano said that the legisla-

current form because "without the cooperation of the DPH, there is no legislation." He believes that the mayor's move gave the Fire Department tacit permission to engage in selective enforcement against the Power Exchange, and Ammiano stated that he is "very supportive" of Powers.

A meeting of the Government

Efficiency and Labor Committee will be held on December 12 at 5:30 p.m. at Everett Middle School to discuss AIDS services. Ammiano hopes that this meeting might ano hopes that this meeting might provide a forum for community input on how to proceed with the sex club legislation, stressing that any legislation or regulations "should come from the community, not from the mayor."

Claiming that the restrictions placed on the Power Exchange are a "morality issue." Powers stated that he is willing to put himself and his club on the line to prevent

and his club on the line to prevent the city from harassing sex clubs. He noted that a lawsuit against the city is a possibility, and that he is "willing to spend a lot of money to make sure we're left alone."

A full hearing on the status of the Power Exchange is scheduled for December 5. ▼

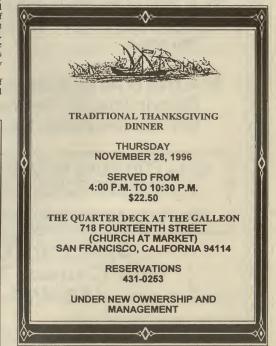


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Transgender issues prominent in capital

by Bob Roehr

ransgender issues made it to front and center in Washington, DC beginning November 6, with a meeting of representatives of that community with the Human Rights Campaign (HRC); a demonstration outside headquarters of the

outside headquarters of the American Psychiatric Association; and a lively presence at the Creating Change conference.

Phyllis Frye, representing the International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy, pulled together ten representatives from a broad cross-section of the transgender community for the November 6 meeting with HRC's executive director Elizabeth Birch. It focused on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).

on the Employment Non-Dis-crimination Act (ENDA).

The current version of that legislation does not include transgender people. HRC has re-sisted changing the language to include them, despite heavy lob-bying for more than a year by transgenders

Frye said that during the three-and-a-half-hour session "we got through a lot of negative stuff. Some of it was perceived as threats." But she saw it as simply a realistic appraisal of how the trans community would react to getting

HRC suggested and the group



Transgender protesters outside APA headquarters Nov. 8.

agreed to two major activities. Jessica Xavier will coordinate collection of "horror stories" of employment discrimination against transgender persons to "put a human face" on possible Congressional hearings.

human face" on possible Congressional hearings.

Transgender people are also being asked to meet with their senators and representatives in their home districts by the end of this year to explain their case for inclusion. Frye related the story of an anti-gay senator from a rural state who "was so amazed to learn that one of us even lived in his that one of us even lived in his state, that the conversation remained courteous and informative for almost three times as long as originally scheduled, while some 'important' people were left cooling their heels in the lobby."

No assurances

No assurances

Xavier characterized the meeting as "an agreement to keep working together, with no assurances." While the group is officially cautiously optimistic that the efforts will result in HRC supporting inclusion, some individual members are not so sanguine. They pointed to comments by HRC's departing political director Daniel Zingale subsequently made at Creating Change. He described the three-year gauntlet ENDA had run—first gaining support of the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (a calition of 180 civil rights organizations), endorsement by the president, and bipartisan support in Congress. He concluded, "I think to amend ENDA in any significant way at this point are said start, and start, where we was not start. cant way at this point means that you go back three years and start over with the civil rights community. I think that would be strate-gically unwise."

gically unwise."
Frye's response was twofold.
"Number one, we should have been in it in the first place, and two, this Congress ain't gonna pass it anyway, so if there is a hiccup, this is the two year session to do it."

Numerous workshops at

NGLTF's Creating Change conference November 8-10 focused on gender identity issues. However, some other panels ignored or outright refused to discuss trans or bi right refused to discuss trans or bi issues within their topics. That led to a protest at the lunch plenary session of 2,000 on Saturday. Three activists were allowed to speak for a few minutes, and at the end they called for bi, trans, and intersexed people to come to the front of the room.

"I was amazed at just how many of us there were in atten-dance," said Frye. "It just goes to show that if we are not personally known to each other and we do not wear an identifying shirt, then we become invisible."

Giddiness

November 8 saw about 40 people gather in the morning rain outside the American Psychiatric outside the American Psychiatric Association to protest that group's continued use of "Gender Identity Disorder (GID)" to "pathologize gender variance" as a mental disorder. A GID diagnosis can be broadly used against both adults and youth. The protesters are seeking its removal. Co-sponsors of the demonstration included of the demonstration included the Transsexual Menace, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), and other groups.

Not all transsexuals want the

label discontinued; some feel it is essential to gaining insurance cov-erage for sexual reorientation

Riki Anne Wilchins, executive director of Gender PAC, said, "I sometimes feel like I'm walking around inside an asylum with people who have been trapped into this discourse forced on us by mainstream society, and who have actually come to believe in the labels they inhabit." ▼

For more information, contact: Jessica Xavier – thexgrrrl@aol.com, Phyllis Frye – prfrye@aol.com, Riki Anne Wilchins – riki@pipeline.com.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

UCSF launches health survey of SF, LA, NY, and Chicago gay men

\$3.5M study may be expanded further

by Cynthia Laird

massive, federally-funded telephone survey of gay and bisexual men in San Francisco and several other cities began last Thursday, November 14. When it's finished in about a year, scientists hope to provide in-formation that has not been available covering everything from do-mestic violence to substance abuse to sexual behavior.

Researchers at University of California San Francisco's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS) have workers in the field interviewing an estimated 5,500 gay and bisexual men in San Francisco, New York City, Los An-geles, and Chicago. After those cities are done, researchers plan to do smaller, random surveys in as

do smaller, random surveys in as many as six other cities: Atlanta, Boston, Dallas, Miami, San Diego, and Washington DC.

The collected data should help local and national organizations plan new healthcare initiatives for men who have sex with men.

The survey is being funded by a \$3.5 million grant from the National Institute of Mental Health, according to Ron Stall, Ph.D., an tional Institute of Mental Health, according to Ron Stall, Ph.D., an assistant professor of epidemiology at UCSF and a CAPS researcher. Stall, the project's coprincipal investigator, defended the cost of the study and explained researchers will learn extremely valuable information.

"It's the largest study that's ever been done." Stall told the B.A.R. "It's a major investment by the federal government to treat

B.A.K. It sa major investment by the federal government to treat gay men as if there's more to gay men than sex lives."

Preparation for the Multicul-tural Men's Health Study has been

extensive, Stall said. During the past year, a tremendous amount of

past year, a tremendous amount of time has been devoted to constructing the detailed questionnaire and locating areas in the targeted cities where gay and bisexual men are found in large numbers.

The participants have been randomly selected. Some of them were identified through U.S. Census data, which asked about people in a household and their relationship to one another. One of tionship to one another. One of the answers on the form was "partners, not married," said Stall, adding that led scientists to some of the participants.

Wide range of topics

The study has been designed to fill many current gaps in knowledge about the challenges and abilities of gay and bisexual men to stay healthy, said Stall. The men to stay healthy, said Stall. The results will be useful for a full range of health and community service groups and will help guide new AIDS prevention efforts.

"Fifteen years into the AIDS epidemic, we still lack basic data on the health needs of men who have sex with men," Stall said.
For this study, trained workers are conducting random telephone

are conducting random telephone interviews with men who have sex with men. The survey includes questions on a range of topics, in-cluding healthcare, discrimina-



UCSF's Ron Stall.

tion and homophobia, sexual ac-tivities, emotional well-being, alcohol and drug use, attitudes about the gay community, and the impact of AIDS.

"The study will help goin in

impact of AIDS.

"The study will help gain information on gay and bisexual men's well-being and mental health, and interaction with the gay community," according to AI Novick, chair of the policy committee of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (CEMA). "It will help researchers learn more will help researchers learn more about gay and bisexual men's ac-cess to healthcare and medication, social and political problems, substance abuse, maturation issues, current sexual behaviors, and other HIV/AIDS-related issues."

Commented Stall, "For the in-Commented Stall, "For the investment, the study will describe in great detail who gets gay-bashed, for example." Such information could be shared with groups such as Community United Against Violence (CUAV), he added.

Rafael Diaz, Ph.D., another CAPS researcher who's on the study's research team, said much of the current research focuses on things that negatively impact the

of the current research focuses on things that negatively impact the health of gay men. This survey will be different. "This study will also look at

the many things that predict gay men's ability to be healthy, in-cluding their early life experiences and interactions with the gay community," Diaz said.

Over-sampling sought

The study is also distinguished by its plans to reach large num-bers of African-American and Latino men, emphasizes co-principal investigator Joseph Catania, Ph.D. and CAPS researcher.

Ph.D. and CAPS researcher.

"We are making an extensive effort to ensure that we get information from a large sample of men of color who are often inadequately represented in research studies," Catania said.

Added Stall, "We're really committed to over seampling African.

mitted to over-sampling African-American and Latino gay men."

Stall agreed that in a lot of pre-vious studies, one of the questions asked often involved data of gay

men of color.
"Almost every single time, they [researchers] would respond that the sample was too small. Here's our shot," Stall said.

One of the interesting things researchers discovered - even be-fore beginning the project - is that by mapping out areas where gay and bisexual men reside, and placing the maps on top of one another, scientists are seeing areas of the cities that stand out in terms of where gay men of color reside.

"We're finding a 'Castro Street phenomenon' for black and Latino gay men in New York," Stall said.

Georgia State University's John Peterson, Ph. D. who was former.

Peterson, Ph.D., who was formerly with CAPS and is internationally known for his research on issues affecting African-American gay men, said the UCSF study is a "superb opportunity to find out more about the needs of African-American gay men, not only in terms of Ican gay men, not only in terms of AIDS, but also other healthcare is-sues, such as violence, mental health, connection to the gay community, and discrimination."

There's even another benefit to undertaking such a massive re-search project, according to Stall. "If we pull this off," he said, "we could do a similar study with lesbians." The CAPS study has been en-

The CAPS study has been endorsed by national and local groups, including the GLMA, the American Foundation for AIDS Research, the National Latino/Lesbian and Gay Organization, the National Lesbian and Gay Health Association, the National Table Person AIDS President For AIDS Pres tional Task Force on AIDS Prevention, and the National Minority AIDS Council. ▼



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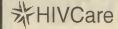
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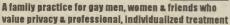
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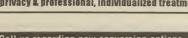
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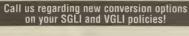
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Experts discuss new HIV treatments

by Liz Highleyman

n Friday November 15, the Stop AIDS Project spon-sored a forum on how new treatments for HIV disease may affect AIDS prevention and safer sex. The upshot of the evening's discussion was that there is still a lot we don't know, and that more time and more study are needed.

The forum started off— as

have several recent HIV/AIDS events— with an appearance by ACT UP/San Francisco. Group members argued that the com-monly used AIDS therapies, including the new protease in-hibitor drugs, are toxic and have

unproven long-term effects.
As hired security guards attempted to physically subdue and remove Michael Bellefountaine remove Michael Bellefountaine and Dave Pasquarelli, Ronnie Burk accused the event sponsors and assembled crowd of being "Nazis" who were condoning "gay bashing." The disruption contin-ued until police arrived and es-corted the ACT UP/SF members

Dave Evans, outreach and education coordinator at Project Inform, started off with a basic overview of anti-HIV therapy, which now includes nucleoside analog drugs (AZT, ddl, ddC, d4T, 3TC), non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors (nevirap-



Forced eviction: Security attempts to eject ACT UP/SF's Michael Bellefountaine from the Nov. 15 SAP forum

ine, delavirdine), and the highly touted protease inhibitors (saquinavir, indinavir, and ritonavir). Combination drug "cock-tails" including the powerful new drugs have been shown in many cases to reduce viral load – the amount of HIV genetic material in the blood – to an undetectable level, that is, to an amount so low that it cannot be measured using available tests.

Evans pointed out that viral load in the blood does not tell the whole story, and that HIV may hide in "reservoir" sites such as the brain, lymph nodes, tonsils, and testes. Studies presented at the XI International Conference on AIDS in Vancouver in July showed that the level of HIV in semen and vaginal fluid may remain high even when the viral load in the blood is low. Forum moderator Matthew Denckla noted that it is unknown how many copies of HIV (the standard measure of viral load) it takes to transmit the virus. Evans emphasized that a person with a very low or unde-tectable viral load could still be infectious. Christopher Esposito, director

of the Hotline and Volunteer Services Department at the San Fran-cisco AIDS Foundation, stated cisco AIDS Foundation, stated that "safe sex messages haven't changed – they are definitely still the same." Unprotected anal and vaginal intercourse are high risk activities, and oral sex is probably a low risk activity. With the new sense of hope brought about by the early success of the protease inhibitors, "the way we hear pre-vention messages – and the way agencies present them - will have to change."

Reinfection issues

Esposito discussed the issue of safer sex between men who are HIV-infected. Many such men had felt safe foregoing condoms if both partners were positive. Such men must take into account the possibility of becoming reinfected with new strains of HIV that are resistant to one or more antiviral drugs – and also of con-tracting other sexually transmitted diseases, which may be espe-cially dangerous to those with weakened immune systems. As Evans pointed out, about 12% of newly infected people have strains

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of HIV that are resistant to AZT, and HIV strains that are resistant of HIV that are resistant to AZT, and HIV strains that are resistant to protease inhibitors have also been documented. As more drugs are introduced, a wider variety of drug resistant HIV mutants emerge, making it increasingly likely that someone who is HIV-positive could become infected with a different and possibly worse strain of the virus.

In response to a question about whether taking combination antiviral therapy might serve as prophylaxis against new strains of HIV, Evans answered—in what would become the evening's refrain—that we don't know yet.

Michael Discepola, the HIV Services Coordinator at the AIDS Health Project, addressed the question of whether HIV infection matters so much now, if AIDS can be treated. He pointed out that the new activityal regir

AIDS can be treated. He pointed out that the new antiviral regi-mens are difficult (often necessi-tating a regimented schedule and dietary restrictions), expensive (combinations can run as high as \$20,000 per year), and have side effects that can range from annoying to severe (including nau-sea, mouth numbness, and kidney stones). He stressed that "HIV is not yet a chronic, manageable dis-

Evans talked briefly about post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP), in which a combination antiviral regimen is begun within the first 36 hours to two months after ex-posure to HIV. PEP was originally used for healthcare workers who experienced an occupational who experienced an occupational exposure; the recently initiated Options Project at San Francisco General Hospital is studying the effectiveness of PEP for people in the initial stages of HIV infection, including those exposed through sexual activity. However, Discepola stressed that "there is no morning after' pill." It is unknown how long such treatment will have to be continued to prevent a resurbe continued to prevent a resurgence of the virus.

Discepola discussed the psy-

Disceptia discussed the psychological and mental health issues raised by the new therapies, noting that there is "a lot of fear along with the hope." The early success of the new drug combinations to be the new drug combinations to t tions has changed many men's feelings about the future, about work, about their financial status, and about dating, intimacy and relationships. But protease inhibitors do not work for everyone.

Discepola mentioned the recent phenomenon of support groups for symptomatic HIV-positive people in which some members are improving and becoming asymptomatic while others re-main ill. Many who are feeling better find they cannot celebrate while their friends are still sick.

while their friends are still sick.

Discepola likened the sense of guilt among men in whom the new drugs are working well to the "survivor guilt" experienced by some HIV-negative gay men.

In terms of epidemiology, the picture is once again unclear. While safer sex messages for individuals remain the same, it is theoretically possible that if the pool of potential sex- and needle-sharing partners has a lower average. ing partners has a lower average viral load thanks to new combination therapies, the rate of HIV transmission could be reduced. This past summer, Department of Public Health Director Sandra Hernandez stated, "If you assume we make no further impacts on we make no further impacts on behavioral change... these pro-tease inhibitors – in that they re-duce viral load so dramatically – could potentially have an impact on new HIV infections. For the individual who may not be practicing safe sex all of the time, if they are taking protease inhibitors regularly in combination with other antiretroviral therapy, then presumably their infectiousness would be somewhat decreased."

The panelists agreed that the media hype surrounding the new HIV treatments may be excessive, and that the long-term effects of protease inhibitor drugs are unknown. Evans noted that the media tends to report the positive aspects of the new therapies but not their drawbacks, and ex-pressed his belief that "the 'c-word' has been used incredibly prematurely."

prematurely." In conclusion, responding to the earlier disruption, Esposito stressed the importance of personal choice. People have the right to hear about the full range of treatment options and to choose those that they feel are appropriate for themselves. "Many people taking the new drug combinations," he noted, "are having great success."

For more information about current therapy, see pages

ACT UP/SF charged with battery

Yes, again.

by Dennis Conkin

elony assault and terrorist threat charges have been lodged against ACT UP/San Francisco member Michael Bellefountaine following a November 18 incident at 10 United Nations Plaza, which houses the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, the federal Social Se curity Administration, and an AIDS Health Project mental

health crisis team.
Activist Ronnie Burk was also arrested and charged with misde-meanor battery in the incident, which involved San Francisco AIDS Foundation security guards and officials.

Burk was released from cus-Burk was released from custody the evening of the incident, but Bellefountaine was held on the felony charges and was required to post \$3,000 bail.

A police report concerning the incident was not available at Bay Area Reporter press time.

Burk was at the site for a pre-

arranged meeting to personally appeal a recent decision by San Francisco AIDS Foundation

client Services Director Susan Haikalis, LCSW, to permanently suspend him from receiving client services at the foundation – and its sister agencies, Shanti and the AIDS Health Project.

Haikalis suspended Burk for the widely-condemned October 7 incident in which the group dis-rupted a SFAF voter's forum — and Burk dumped a bag of used kitty litter over Executive Direc-tor Pat Christen's head — to protest the foundation's public policies related to protease inhibitors.

Burk's action violated the

AIDS Foundation, AHP, and Shanti clients are required to sign, which prohibits physical assaults or threats against "Foundation". tion staff, interns, and volun-teers."

teers."
In the suspension letter,
Haikalis referred Burk to the
Center for Special Problems and
AIDS Benefits Counselors for

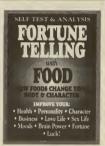
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The altercation with a securi-

page 27



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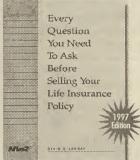
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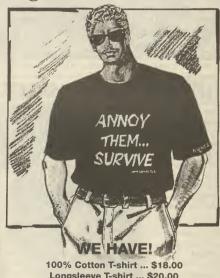


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Toward a standard of care:

Defining therapy for HIV

by Bob Roehr

he NIH Panel to Define Principles of Therapy of HIV Infection met in an ex-

HIV Infection met in an exhaustive public meeting November 13-14 in Washington, DC, to discuss how to use the new array of anti-AIDS drugs and tests.

The recommendations of the 24-member group of clinicians, researchers, and activists, chaired by Charles Carpenter, M.D., likely will be published in January.

Viral load tests

Viral load tests have become indispensable in monitoring the effect of new therapies on the virus in clinical practice. The commercially available Amplicor test by Roche is sensitive down to 400/500 copies of the virus. The next generation will push the level of detection down to about 20/25 copies, and it should be commercially available in 1997.

Steven Herman, Ph.D. with Roche Laboratories, cautioned Roche Laboratories, cautioned not to fixate on individual numbers, particularly at the low threshold of accuracy of the viral load test. Changes in the 5,000-10,000 range "are really the 'noise' and variations of labs." What is significant is a three- to five-fold increase in viral leavel, which is increase in viral levels which is

sustained over time.

John Mellors, M.D. at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, compared HIV to meningitis where conditions can change radically in just a few hours. With ing is going to happen overnight, in two weeks, or in two months. We can monitor and intervene over time.

over time."

Timothy Schacker, M.D. at the University of Minnesota, tracked patients' responses to the virus from very early in infection as they progressed. Frequently they were able to pinpoint the exact source and date of infection. In one instance a pair of lovers was infected by the same sex worker at the same time, and exhibited very different immune responses.

He offered that "those who

sought medical evaluation quick-er," generally because of a strong flu-like reaction soon after infec-tion, "were more likely to rapidly progress." Individual viral loads seem to stabilize or plateau about six months after infection. The higher the stabilization point, the more likely the individual is to

rapidly progress.
But Schacker cautioned that significant numbers of patients did not conform to these general findings. "The paradigm of high viral load leading to low CD4 count does not appear to be true for all patients."

Decay of viremia

David Ho, M.D. with the Aaron Diamond Institute, said that the half-life of viremia (or presence of the virus) in blood is only about six hours. He outlined the "rapid decay of viremia during the first ten days of therapy, then a much slower decay in the virus is largely cleared from blood during the first phase of therapy and only more slowly from other eservoirs of infection, primarily lymphoid tissue.

Ashley Haase, M.D. at the University of Minnesota, observed that triple combination therapy has had a "dramatic impact" on HIV in lymph nodes. But at least six months after therapy.

HIV in lymph nodes. But at least six months after therapy reduced plasma viral load below the undetectable level, he still "found residue of the virus in lymphoid tissue." [See related story, page 25.] "There are stages of infection when it might be more profitable to intervene," according to Haase, who pointed out the "reservoir at early infection is smaller." He joined with Ho in suggestine "a

early infection is smaller." He joined with Ho in suggesting "a rationale for early intervention." Janis Giorgi, Ph.D. at the UCLA School of Medicine, discussed a fairly recent discovery concerning the telomers of CD4 cells. Telomers are the multiply repeated end patterns of chromosomes which sequence the other genes in cell replication. Telomers become shorter with age, thus inhibiting the cell's ability to replicate, while in cancer cells they become longer and hence "immor

cate, while in cancer cells they become longer and hence "immortal," replicating wildly.

The telomers of CD4 cells in
people with advanced HIV infection "reached the same length as
those who are very old." That suggests they have undergone accelerated replication in fighting the
virus, have rapidly aged, and have
exhausted much of their ability to

further replicate and hence fight

Giorgi argued for early treat-ment, perhaps even "during the period before the immune re-sponse develops." She believes that the immune system shows some ability to rebound and even express subsets of CD4 and CD8 cells that had been depleted. But that requires suppressing the virus for at least six months. It becomes much more difficult to restore cells' subsets when the CD4 level

Joseph Margolick, M.D. at Johns Hopkins University, talked of the "inflection point" where a rapid decline in CD4 cells occurs. That generally leads to an AIDS-defining condition about a year later. There is "evidence of emergence of new viral strains around the inflection point" in at least half the patients they examined. But it is unclear whether viral mutations overwhelm the immune system, or the system col-lapses and viral strains emerge that had been suppressed.

Resistance/compliance

Esistance/compliance
Emilio Emini, Ph.D. with
Merck Research Laboratory,
warned that "HIV is genetically
unforgiving. Once resistance begins to occur, there is no going
back." He worried about patients'
failure to comply with the strict
dosing pattern of protease inhibitors. That could lead to viral
mutations resistant to those
drugs.

But Carpenter and others in clinical practice believe compliance is often tied to results. He used the example of AZT, were compliance has been a problem primarily when the patient has felt that the drug was not working for them. People who see results continue to take a drug on sched-

That led panel member Valerie Stone, M.D. of the Brown Univer-

sity School of Medicine, to suggest that they will have to include "quality of life issues" when formulating their recommendations. "For those who walk in feeling relatively well, it is difficult to con-vince them to take 17 pills a day."

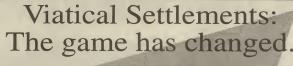
Panel member and activist Mark Harrington, policy director of the New York-based Treatment Action Group, believes their recommendations will include "use of viral load tests as a routine part of clinical management, and that protease inhibitors should be a part of the regiment. When peo-ple switch regimens they shouldn't just add one drug to a failing regimen, they should add at least one new drug and switch at least one of the underlying drugs they

But he cautioned, "It still may be an appropriate response for people who are healthy to wait for people who are healthy to wait for more drugs or for more research to come out." In light of potential problems of viral mutation and drug resistance, "people might want to wait until they are really sure that they want to make a treatment decision and adhere to a very complicated resignent."

Gary Rose, treatment lobbyist with the AIDS Action Council, believes "there are a whole range of choices they can give people so long as they have in the guideline that when you treat, you aim to suppress the viral load below the

He sees "the argument for re-sources becoming easier" with these guidelines. "It becomes eas-ier to say you have to have this early intervention Medicaid program because you have these stan-

Harrington concurs. "We hope this will lead to more appropriate coverage" by third-party payers, he said. "All healthcare programs should pay for what is the best and most beneficial treatment regiment."





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Specialists say AIDS deaths are down, but...

Are some doctors blowing it?

by Stephen LeBlanc, ACT UP/Golden Gate **Writers Pool**

our Bay Area HIV specialists report that they are seeing dramatic real-world benefits from aggressive anti-HIV combination therapy, but are worried that many doctors are prescribing anti-HIV drugs in ways that cause

them to lose effect quickly.

Dr. Steven Deeks, of the UCSF
AIDS program and San Francisco
General's Ward 86, sums up
what's different today in his practice: "For the most part, my pa-tients aren't dying." His patients include a cross-section of those seeking care at the public hospital. "Patients where HIV is the second or third most pressing issue in their lives, after homelessness or drug use, are often still doing poorly, though even many of them are much better than a year ago. But patients for whom HIV is their only issue are doing ex-tremely well today, which is a big

tremely well today, which is a big difference from a year ago."

Dr. Bill Owen treats more than 300 HIV+ patients. He saw his first symptomatic HIV patients with swollen lymph nodes in 1979. "The last nine months have wrought a remarkable change in our treatment successes," reports Owen. "I used to routinely get up at 4 a.m. and make hospital rounds from 5-7 before going to the clinic. Now, I still get up at 4 a.m., but I work out for two hours because I have so few patients in the hospital."

"My patients are doing phenomenally better," reports Dr. David Senechek. "If you look at the most basic statistic like how many people are dying, I had 20 people die in 1994, nine in 1995, people die in 1994, nine in 1995, and four so far this year. During that time my practice grew 30% to about 600 HIV+ patients." Senechek sees very few patients not doing well. "I've seen no evidence in my practice of people failing new anti-HIV therapies. If their viral loads weren't zero, six their viral loads weren't zero six months ago, they are zero now.
I've had people with zero to ten CD4 cells for four years rising to 200-300 and going back to work. I have seen patients recover from MAI this year, a first. I have pa-tients with severe KS who have gone into remission.

It's the drugs

The doctors all attribute the change to use of new anti-HIV drugs, in combinations designed to fully suppress viral load as monitored by viral load as monitored by viral load tests. The specialists generally combine at least three drugs in all patients, with at least one of the three being either a new protease inhibitor (PI) or non-nucleoside reverse

(PI) or non-nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI). Dr. Marge Poscher evaluates patients individually to determine a drug combination. "When I first see a patient, I get a viral load test, CD4 count, and drug history, and assess their feeling about taking medicines. For people with extremely high viral loads, over about 100,000, a PI is essential. I generally use crixivan first, because I've had the best results with the fewest side-effects. I somethe fewest side-effects. I some-times combine two PIs or use Saquinavir at double or triple strength. For people with midrange viral loads who are hesitant about PIs because of the



Dr. David Senechek: "My patients are doing phenomenally better."

dosing schedule, I've had great results using a triple comb owith an NNRTI, either azt/ddi/nevirapine or 3tc/d4t/nevirapine.

Both Poscher and Senechek stress that even patients with advanced HIV disease or with

multi-drug resistant virus can benefit from the new drugs. "With the hard cases, you get creative," says Poscher. "In patients whose viral load does not respond to a standard three drug combo, I'm using NNRTIs with PIs and sometimes adding hydroxy urea. I try some patients back on nucleo-sides they haven't been on in a

"For people who seem stable "For people who seem stable right now but whose viral load is not as suppressed as I would like using available options, I am tending to wait six months until the new viracept PI and 1592, a new nucleoside analogue, are available so I can use those two drugs in combination. I don't want to waste a notent new PI on

want to waste a potent new PI on sequential monotherapy." Senechek uses very frequent viral load testing when changing therapy and often builds a combination in steps. "I started using comparison viral load testing because I wanted to do things sciencause I wanted to do things scientifically. Two weeks after you give a drug to a patient, you either see a dramatic drop in viral load of at least 50-80% or you don't. I want to quickly prove that each drug I am using is giving a beneficial effect, before I add another. For some resistant cases, I'm adding four and five drugs together, but if I can't get viral load down, in a very few cases I've taken patients off everything for three weeks and let viral load rise to an untreated level. I then draw blood for a viral load, and at the same time add one or two drugs that I think will be effective given a patient's drug

"After two weeks, if I see a drop, I add another drug; if not, I switch to two different drugs. For a couple of hard cases, this approach allowed me to quickly find

a drug combination that worked." However, some doctors and virologists worry that adding anti-virals in a step-wise fashion, even only separated by a few weeks, could lead to the development of

But are some doctors blowing it?

Despite some differences in treatment strategies, the four specialists all expressed concern that many doctors are not mak ing good use of the new drugs. "The medical community, even in this area, is far too conservative regarding HIV treatment," ex **ACT UP**

conservative regarding
HIV treatment," expressed Senechek. "With
95% of people eventually dying of untreated HIV, the sensible
thing medically is to
treat HIV early and
treat it fully. When you treat with
a combination of potent drugs
that all are effective in a particular patient, the virus shuts down.
Piecemeal adding one new therapy on top of failing drugs wilk
keep killing people and will reduce for some what could have
been a ten-year or longer antiviral benefit down to a year or
less."

Senechek's concern is confirmed by a survey just released by the San Francisco Community Consortium, titled "Community Patterns of Care for HIV Disease," which found that 70% of doctors usually prescribe nucleoside analogues alone (such as AZT plus 3tc) in patients with 200-500 CD4 cells. Survey results were collected in May, so patterns of care may be

"My view has changed in just the last few weeks," reports Steven Deeks. "Not-yet-published data shows that resistance develops quickly with combinations that are not completely suppressive.
I'm coming to believe that when
you start with anti-virals,

you should use a combi-nation that completely suppresses viral load or you may waste your chance to fully benefit

from some good drugs.

"For most people,
that means starting with a combination including a PI or NNRTI."

Resistance testing

There is some interest in using viral resistance testing as it becomes available to select drug combinations, although Poscher and others are not sure how use-ful it will ultimately be. "I find," she reports, "that with careful histories, you can estimate which drugs will be effective. I was at a conference recently where they described flying blood to Belgium for a \$900 phenotypic resistance test for a patient who had used almost every available anti-viral

and, lo-and-behold, the test showed the person was still sensi-

tive to nevirapine.
"Well, I could have told you that without spending \$900 for a

Senechek, while hopeful the is currently also skeptical. "I don't think the genotypic testing right now is sensitive or clear enough in terms of what it tells you."

Still killers: PML, CMV, **CNS** lymphoma

All the doctors report some patient deaths from a few particu-larly intractable opportunistic conditions. "We lost two people this year to disseminated CMV [cytomegalovirus]," said Senechek. "Anti-CMV therapy is limited, and CMV mutates to avoid treatments and suppresses T-cells as severely as HIV.

"Our other two deaths were to PML [caused by a viral infection in the brain] and to CNS lymphoma. But other patients, even with nodular lymphoma and KS and some with PML, are having remissions."

remissions."

Poscher and Owen implicate the same chief killers in their AIDS practices, and also report cases of extremely sick patients getting dramatically better.

Deeks implicates one other killer: "I've had two patients die this year from Hepatitis C after their CD4 cells rose," he said.

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James M. Elliott Dec. 26, 1952 - Nov. 5, 1996



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to die at home in peace.
Jim was born in Lincoln, Neb.; graduated from Northeast High School; and
from the St. Elizabeth School of Technology as a radiologist. He worked in
the medical field most of his life. He was
a Renaissance man with an incredible
thirst for knowledge, all of which he was
glad to share with loved ones and
friends.

lim was a second of the second

friends. Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Elionor and Earl G. Elliott. He is survived by his partner, Carlos Larranaga; grandmother, Vera Elliott; aunt, Lois; sister, Peggy Moeller; her husband, Ken; brother, Robert Elliott; and, then; brother, Robert Elliott; awell as friends, Julie, Candace, Sairus, Spencer, Joe, Randy and Emelie; and many more friends.

We would like to thank Dr. Erica

friends.

We would like to thank Dr. Erica
Goode, Carol Lindermann and the office staff; Carol Dunkley of VNH; Jack
Walder; and the medical personnel who
aided Jim for 15 years.

A gathering of friends will be held
Nov. 24, 4-6 p.m. For more information, call Carlos at 415/543-3455,

Thank you, Jim, for all your unconditional love. Sleep well and rest "My

Mary "Mom" Mesquita Aug. 14, 1932 - Nov. 13, 1996



Aug. 14, 1932 – Nov. 13, 1996

Mary Mesquita, affectionately known as "Mom" in the gay community, passed away quietly at age 64 in the San Lorenzo home, after being diagnosed with cancer this past lally. Although she always the life of the party and will be remembered for her sense of humor, as well as her kindness and generosity. A longtime friend and supporter of the gay community, Mary was well-known for her love of dancing at many East Bay clubs. She was active in fundraising for AIDS-related charities and was a volunteer at the SPCA.

Mary was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Harold, Red and Al Bothwell; daughter, Ruh Burke; son, Jim Livingston; and many close friends. She leaves behind her husband, Charles Mesquita; sister, Lois Chase, brothers, Ray and Glenn Bothwell; daughters, Ray and Glenn Bothwell; daughters, Ray and Glenn Bothwell; daughters, Patti Nordstrom, Phyliss and Helen Mesquita; son, Carles Mesquita; daughter-in-law, Lulu Mesquita; and foster daughter, Tweeti (Glenda) Dillingham.

A graveside service was held Monday, Nov. 18, at the Veteran's Memorial Cemetery in Gustine. The family asks that donations be made in her name to the Cancer Society and the Humane Society. She was a beloved friend who will be missed by all who knew her.

John L. Rout June 4, 1932 - Sept. 25, 1996



John passed away on a Wednes-day in September of a cerebral hem-orrhage. He was the mentor of many students, both in school and socially. A source of inspira-tion and a great conversationalist

on Democratic politics and human rights, he spent many days and nights

lamenting various injustices and the plight of people with AIDS. He campaigned for AIDS and safe sex education in the schools. He read with passion Harry Truman, Anne Rice and Armistead Maupin. He gave new meaning to Bette Midler's "Wind Beneath My Wings." He was a man of the world who will be missed by all those whose lives he touched.

John is survived by his two daughters, Paula Rout and Marybeth Johnston; two grandchildren; his friend for the last five years, Michael Jordan; Gary Tolisane; Jim Connor; Alan Brown; and so many friends and colleagues.

At his request, there were no services; his ashes were spread at sea. Any donations should be given to the AIDS organization of your choice.

Danny Shippy June 19, 1956 - Oct. 13, 1996



Danny passed away on Oct. 13 after suffering a heart attack the week before. He leaves behind his lover, Louis; his

lover, Louis; his many San Francis- co friends; and family in Missouri. Danny worked for United Missouri Bank in Warrensburg, Mo., from 1976 to 1992, serving in various capacities, including as president and as a member of the board of directors.

directors. In 1992 Danny moved to San Fran-cisco to pursue the life he always want-ed. He became a funeral director after attending the SF College of Mortuary Science, graduating in 1993. That same year he met and fell in love with Louis, and together they built a life around wonderful moments shared with their

A celebration of Danny's life will be held on Dec. 14 from a vantage point overlooking the city he loved so much. Please contact Ava at 512-1151 for de-

Memorial contributions can be sent to the Danny Shippy Memorial Scholar-ship Fund of the SF College of Mortuary Science.

ary Science.
Danny, we will miss the special way
you brought people together. Most of
all, we will miss your smile. It came
from a heart that had both a passion for
life and the courage to follow that pas-

AIDS czar, civil rights chief to leave

by Bob Roehr

atsy Fleming, director of the national Office of AIDS Policy, and Assistant Attor-ney General for Civil Rights Deval Patrick are among the lower level appointees leaving the Clinton administration as it puts together its team for the second term.

Fleming was the second term.

Fleming was the second person to occupy that AIDS office in the White House. Her predecessor, Kristine Gebbie, was virtually fired, after one ineffective year, when she spoke of "Victorian morals" as an impediment to effective AIDS education.

Fleming was an able bureaucrat selected more for her ability to work quietly than for public leadership or advocacy skills. That is the role she played during her more than two year tenure at the post. The budget and number of personnel of the office declined

during those years.

AIDS advocates have renewed their call for an "AIDS czar" that candidate Bill Clinton promised in his 1992 campaign, They want an appointee with public stature and visibility who will make AIDS a major issue within the adminis-tration and before the American

public.

"We demand an AIDS czar, not an AIDS serf," said Steve Michael with ACT UP/Washington.



Patsy Fleming.

Names being bandied about include old standbys such as former Connecticut Governor Lowell Weicker and retiring Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield, both Repub licans, and the hottest current name, Mike Lowry, retiring De-mocratic Governor of Washington state.

However, the successor is likely to be another low-level bureaucrat. There is no indication from

the Clinton administration that it intends to raise the profile of AIDS in a second term

Deval-ued hopes

Deval Patrick came to Washington after the bungled nomination of Lani Guinier to that civil rights post after it had lain vacant for 15 months. Hopes were high when he took the oath of office in April 1994.

April 1994.
Eric Rosenthal, lobbyist for the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), called the ceremony "one of the highlights of my nine years" in Washington. Tanya Domi, lobbyist for the National Gay and Les-bian Task Force (NGLTF), said, "It is good to know there is someone at the Justice Department that re-ally understands, that is not going to shift on this mission based upon the political winds of the

time."

But Patrick's tenure publicly avoided gay and lesbian issues, probably at the insistence of the White House. A principal example was the Senate hearings in June 1994 on the Employment Non-Discrimination

Act (ENDA). Patrick was invited to (ENDA). Patrick was invited to testify on the bill, but instead offered a letter for the record stating the administration's support for the principle – but not for the bill

Clinton would support ENDA only in October 1995. ▼

Gay student wins \$900K in discrimination suit

United Press International

Ashland, Wisconsin school district agreed Wednesday, November 20 to pay \$900,000 to a former student who had accused school offi-cials of failing to protect him from

gay bashing.

The decision followed a federal court jury verdict Tuesday, finding the district guilty of discrimina-tion based on sexual orientation.

The suit was filed by Jamie Nabozny, now 21 and currently

living in Minneapolis. He dropped out of high school in his junior year and blamed his dropping out on the years of abuse to

which he had been subjected.
Attorneys for the school district and Nabozny negotiated through the night to reach the settlement. The jury had been sched-

tlement. The jury had been sched-uled to begin considering dam-ages Wednesday.

"Countless gay kids have paid a high price for abuse," said Patricia M. Logue, an attorney for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, the largest legal organization

rights of gays men and women.

Nabozny said the settlement will allow him to go on with his life.

"I feel like I have justice and that this means justice for all other kids out there who aren't sure if they should stay in school or stay alive," said Nabozny, who tried to commit suicide several

nabozny obtained a general equivalency degree after he dropped out of high school.

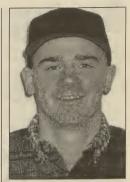
"I hope I can go to college and have the normal educational ex-

perience that I waited a long time for," Nabozny said.

The jury, which arrived at its verdict following a two-day trial, found three school district administrators liable for not protecting

Nabozny's mother testified during the trial that school offi-cials repeatedly brushed off her clais repeated prushed on her pleas for help with statements like, "Boys will be boys" and "If you're going to be gay, you have to learn to expect such abuse."

The officials testified they did not remember such incidents.



Three-drug mix cuts HIV in thymus

United Press International

utch and American AIDS researchers have presented findings that show a threedrug cocktail can drive down HIV to undetectable levels

down HIV to undetectable levels in lymph tissue, as well as in blood – although further hiding places may remain.

After six months of taking three drugs – AZT, 3TC, and ritonavir – six people had levels of the virus too low for current tests to find, reported Daan Notermans from the Academic Medical Centre in Amsterdam.

He and colleagues reported their findings at the Third Inter-national Conference on Drug Therapy in Birmingham, England November 7. Some of the co-researchers, from the University of searchers, from the University of Minnesota, published a paper si-multaneously, showing where the virus can build up inside the lymph system.

lymph system.

The success of the drug cocktail does not mean doctors know that HIV is completely out of the human body, said Dr. Lynn Smiley, international director of Antiviral Research for Glaxo Wellcome, in Research Triangle Park, N.C.

Glaxo Wellcome makes two of the drugs in the test, 3TC and AZT. The third drug, the protease

inhibitor ritonavir (or Norvir),

comes from Abbott Laboratories.
Smiley said previous research
had shown that HIV also sneaks had shown that HIV also sneaks into the central nervous system, for example. Researchers will need to check virus levels in spinal fluid among other potential virus hideouts

About eight or ten studies are now tracking people who take AZT, 3TC and another drug, often protease inhibitors, Smiley said. If their results are as promising as the Amsterdam study, researchers may take the next step: getting the patients to stop taking the drugs to see if the virus bounces back.

"It's kind of like putting cancer in remission," Smiley said. Doc-tors watch carefully to make sure cancers do not pop up again, and AIDS specialists may end up

AIDs specialists may end up doing similar monitoring.

She praised the Minnesota team led by Ashley Haase for "elegant work" that is giving researchers a glimpse of what the virus does in the lymph system.

The lymph system can harbor plenty of virus even though the

plenty of virus even though the blood shows little trace of it, warn Haase and colleagues in a paper published in the journal Science. They note, however, that the patients who had this virus mis-match – low blood levels and high lymph levels – were just taking two drugs, neither of them a pro-tease inhibitor. The team has checked the levels in people tak-ing protease inhibitors too, but announcing the results "will be page two at a later date," said Keith Henry, a co-author of the Science paper.

Science paper.

The Minnesota team has made lymph studies much easier in recent years by refining a way of sampling the lymph system withsamping the lymph system without surgery. The researchers can
now get an idea of virus levels by
just numbing the back of the
throat and nicking off a piece of
tonsil as big as a BB.

Henry predicted that after
years of focusing on virus in the
blood, scientists will now be able

blood, scientists will now be able to chase HIV deeper into its hide-outs in the body. Finding a win-dow on the lymph system is "bridging into the next frontier," he said. ▼

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Boning up

by Jim Provenzano

n response to the many leering, lascivious grins I get when it I tell someone I'm on the gay and lesbian wrestling team, I decided to polish up my bully pulpit and explain a few lessons in biol-

and explain a few lessons in bio ogy to the less experienced. The most frequently asked question, along with, "Gee, I've always wanted to try that," is the impertinent, "Do you ever get a boner when you're wrestling?" To which I ask, Do you ever get a boner when you're bowling, or skiing, or operating or skiing, or operating a circular band saw? **Sports** Complex The answer is no.

Usually.
The fact that two bodies rub and collide in the act of the sport makes many viewers think wrestling is a sexual act. It's not, unless you make it so. With the plethora of BG and other kink videos making the rounds at any enlightened video stores, a multi-tude of Canadian body buildermud-oil-aloe vera-bondage-jock-strap wrestling videos has, while being a wonderful source of entertainment for some, given real wrestling a bad rap. I'm talking about amateur wrestling, which is the stuff you see on the Olympics. There are several kinds; freestyle, Greco-Roman and scholastic/col-

They're all based on the same "pin the guy" theory, but the styles vary, much like the difference between French, Spanish, and Cata-lan. At Golden Gate, we do freestyle, which is the nicest version. There's not a lot of flinging or boring "riding time," like in

collegiate, and novices out up pretty easily.

But we don't go running around with raging hard-ons, greasing each other up and snapping jockstraps; at least, not at practice.

Marianne the **Body Ventura**

Freestyle wrestling is the orthodox version. And yet, there have been times when GGWC male

when GGWC male members collided with another SF group that unfortunately disbanded, a group that met for "erotic" wrestling, which was a lot of fun, except for the incense and new age music. It was kind of like Mariera Williams and the like mariera with the state of the state o ianne Williamson meets Jesse the Body Ventura.

Body Ventura.

But during the act of actual wrestling, believe me, even when I'm working with a guy whom I've always dreamed of boinking, or have boinked, even then, sex is the last thing on my mind. What I'm thinking is, I hope he doesn't crack a rib or dislocate my nose in that crossface. I'm more concrack a rib or dislocate my nose in that crossface. I'm more concerned with safety. The blood is usually rushing to body parts other than my wiener.

The sexuality of wrestling is much more for the viewer. As a voyeur, you're allowed to imply sexual connotations to the various



Some European soccer teams (like the one above) parade around the stadium naked when they lose the Cup

homoerotic positions and holds which, granted, visually resemble sexual positions, and when the competitors are wearing tight singlets that make their butts look

glets that make their butts look like Easter candy, it's quite a sight. But it's not sex. Sport is not sex, which may explain why erotic basketball tapes, or erotic lacrosse, or erotic bungee-jumping are not as popular. I do recall an old *Playgirl* photo spread of guys skiing nude. Of course, nudity is not necessarily sexuality, as guys sking nude. Or course, nu-dity is not necessarily sexuality, as any naturist can tell you, and these skier guys were far from erect, temperature and snow in-ducing the usual "shrivel" effect.

Which reminds me, I was going mention Aspen Gay Ski Week's 20th Anniversary circuit party with "5,000 Beautiful People" – I can't afford to go there, but if you're interested in that sort of thing, call your travel agent to make arrangements. Frankly, I know those same "5,000 Beautiful People" pretty much hang out with each other in places like Palm Springs and Miami Beach and Ultra Plastic, and did I mention that Coors Light is a sponsor? After the Right Wing Slalom Beer Bust (not an actual event), there's a "Bump Your

Buns" competition. Please insert your own subtext here.

No Cup, no shorts

I imagine those who've "bumped" a bit much might consider nude skiing, or having sex while skiing, which, to get back to the point, is about as easy as having sex while wrestling. Observing any activity of groups of semi-clad bodies, however, can be erot-ic, given the right context. Rugby players whose shorts become shredded, divers and swimmers pretty much gain the awe and respect of millions by dint of their near nudity. Some European soccer teams parade around the sta-dium naked when they lose the Cup. This is an institution I think more American teams should em-ploy post haste.

As queers engaging in athletic activities, we are allowed the radical freedom to unleash the sexual car reedom to unleash the sexual implications of sport that have long been repressed, and get on with the business of being queer athletes. The plethora of porno stories set in gyms, boxing rings and shower rooms attest to our interest, if not the porn industry's failure to recreate its true excitement.

And the point of all this is not to demean those who sexualize sport. Sweating and exercising and touching are sexy, but only if who you're doing it with your kind of person, or persons. The problem with our evolving subculture is that we've been conditional to the problem with our evolving subculture is that we've been conditional to the problem with our evolving subculture is that we've been conditional to the problem with our evolving subculture is that we've been conditional to the problem with the pro tioned to primarily see each other as sexual creatures first. Brian Pronger's book *The Arena of Mas*culinity proves many points, but as my coach will argue, it is a flawed debate. The moment of ac-tual physical exertion, from en-gaging in a cradle hold, or pumping iron in a gym, is not a sexual moment. It's the setting, the body

and the aura of the athlete that are sexy. A body can be just a body, but put in the context of athleticism, with cleats or a jockstrap, the sexuality is heightened.

Where the babes are

Of course, this concept is furthered when considering the sex-uality of an athlete like Martina Navratilova, Some lesbians consider her more of a lesbian when she wins a tennis match. That's sale with a definish match. That's the perspective of a few dykes I gabbed with at a party last week. We were talking about gams, legs, Festival of the Babes, and oh yes, Women's Basketball.

I am assured that the hot spot for meeting presentable butches and femmes is in San Jose at games played by the Lasers, one of the fiercest women's basketball teams around. "All home games will be played at the Event Center, the perfect venue for women's basketball with comfortable indi-vidual seats, each providing a close view of the action on the court at an affordable price," says a Lasers promotional item. So, if you're into that, ladies, gals, wim-min, check it out. Tickets range from \$35 (courtside) to \$5 (peanut gallery). The next home game is Thursday, November 28, against Colorado. (And it's

Thanksgiving!)
Perhaps the whole sexuality in sport thing is not about mas-culinity or femininity, but hu-manity, which is sexy by being life-affirming. And that is probably what explains why we do what we do. ▼

San Jose Lasers (Women's Professional Basketball) (408) 271-1500.

Aspen Gay Ski Week 800-



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Basher jumps

◄ page 1

cording to Lee's attorney, the trio had come with a carload of other East Bay residents, ostensibly to celebrate Bell's 21st birthday at the popular South of Market hetero-sexual club DNA Lounge.

sexual club DNA Lounge.

John Stellin, the third defendant in the case, failed to show for trial, and Tang issued a bench warrant for his arrest.

In his pre-sentencing remarks to Tang, Bell had pleaded for a lenient sentence and apologized to the court for the hate crime. His attorney, SF Public Defender Nancy Rosier, had unsuccessfully pleaded for house detention or work furlough from jail.

In remarks that may have been prompted by his attorney, Bell told the court he felt "very badly" about having committed the anti-gay as-sault on Bennett, promised that such an attack would "never hap-pen again," and stressed that he was "a good candidate for probation."

If this is justice...

If this is justice...
Bell's failure to turn himself in didn't surprise Bennett, who angrily denounced Tang's decision to release the remaining defendants on their own recognizance.
"She said she would take responsibility for this," said Bennett.
"I'm not surprised that he didn't show up. If this is what justice is, our community has more problems than they've ever realized." lems than they've ever realized."
Bennett also expressed frustra

tion that his case had passed through nine prosecutors at the District Attorney's office before at-torney Chris Clifford was assigned to the case less than a day before the case went to trial on October 31— and one year to the day after the anti-gay attack occurred.

At sentencing, prosecutor Clif-ford had strongly urged Tang to

sentence the defendants to serve the entire year sentence in jail and to remand Bell and Lee to jail immediately after sentencing because of concerns they would not appear.

Defense attorneys had asked the gay-bashers be given two weeks before starting their sen-

tences.

Over Clifford's protests, Tang declined, saying that because Bell and Lee had met every court date and shown up for trial, she believed they would both appear to serve their terms. She gave the defendants a week to get their affairs in order before they were remanded to questody.

manded to custody.
Clifford, normally a corporate
securities attorney for Zelle and
Larson who is on a public service
project loan to the District Attorney's office, said that while he disagreed with Tang, he thought she had been "very compassionate" in her sentence of Bell. "I think she'd like to believe

that people are basically good overall, and sometimes people do bad things, and that you separate that behavior and you punish it," Clifford said.

Because of Stellin's flight, there had been open speculation among courthouse observers whether Bell or Lee would show up for sentencing in Tang's court, much less turn themselves into custody.

Bennett told the B.A.R. he was

frightened because Bell and the two other defendants once showed up at his former home, trailing be-hind a woman who claimed to be

He was given several days of police drive-by protection at his house following that incident, he said, but fears about retaliation forced him to move at a cost of more than \$4,000.

Bennett said he had complete-

ly cooperated with the prosecu-tion in the case— and had been initially hopeful the case would

show others in the gay community that the criminal justice system serves victims of anti-gay violence. Now he is angry and concerned that no one from the District Attorney's office had bothered to notify him that Bell had filed to have for contending and the server of t failed to show for sentencing, and that he should take precautions

for his safety.
"Do I have to be worried that he could show up on my doorstep?" he asked.
The Sheriff's department now

has responsibility for returning Bell to custody through its War-rant Service Unit and will actively seek to locate and return him to jail to serve his commitment,

Sheriff's spokeswoman Eileen Hirst said.

The Bay Area Reporter has learned that Judge Herb Donald-son has issued a bench warrant for Bell's apprehension, because of the possibility that he has fled local jurisdiction. ▼

ACT UP

"About 50% of IV drug users have Hepatitis C, and in some people with the infection a strengthened immune system can trigger damage to the liver."

Senechek reports his patients with Hepatitis C are doing well when treated aggressively for that infection along with their anti-HIV treatment.

Getting access to HIV specialists and treatments

Senechek and Poscher report they have had surprisingly few they have had surprisingly few problems getting private and public insurance to pay for the tests and treatments they wanted. "I have an excellent front desk staff who can handle most insurance issues," reports Senechek. "And in cases where an insurance provider had questions, I've gotten on the phone, explained what I was trying to do, and they've approved it. I've even had success with Kaiser patients I am seeing as a consulpatients I am seeing as a consultant." Senechek does not accept patients with only MediCal coverage because the reimbursement is extremely limited, but he does ac cept Medicare and virtually all private insurance. Poscher accepts

patients with MediCal, with Medicare, and with most private

insurance and group plans.

The four doctors were very aware of the latest HIV research results and were well-informed regarding when new treatments were going to become available This appears to be reflected in recent studies showing that patients seen by doctors with large HIV practices live twice as long as those seen by physicians who have just a few HIV+ patients. "Physicians with a lot of HIV

experience clearly prescribe dif-ferently," reports Thomas Mitchell of the Community Consortium. "They are more likely to treat OIs appropriately, tend to treat HIV more aggressively and earlier, and are closest to the state of the art in their treatment strategies. There seems to be a shift away from having HIV treated by primary care doctors to it being a specialty, and that may mean patients will live longer."

The Healing Alternatives Foundation Library maintains a binder of patient surveys of Bay Area doctors to assist people with HIV in finding a physician. Call (415) 626-4053 for availability.

Battery

◄ page 21

ty guard took place as Burk and Bellefountaine were being escort-ed from the building after the meeting – and although the con-troversial AIDS activits group says the security guard assaulted Bellefountaine, SFAF deputy di-rector for programs Read Ducar rector for programs Rene Duraz-zo told the Bay Area Reporter that

there "was no assault on the part of the security guard until he was assaulted."

Bellefountaine and Burk say they plan to file their own assault charges against the security guard.

guard.
Burk called his suspension retaliation for the "political act" of
dumping cat shit over Christen
at the forum, but a rising chorus of anti-violence experts and les-bian and gay community leaders

say the October 7 action was actually a violent assault against Christen.

"That's not in any tradition of civil disobedience," said Commu-nity United Against Violence Director Lester Olmstead-Rose.
"The action speaks for itself. The description of what happened is the description of a violent act.
"It's an assault. It's not accept-

able. It's harmful to the commu-

Milk march

■ page 1

opera's final image, which should prove a devastating finale to audi-ence members who have them-selves marched to the theatre.

The opera, with music by Stewart Wallace and libretto by Michael Korie, runs for eight performances through November 30. Among the important revisions in the opera since its opening in Houston January 21, 1995 is a so-liloquy, "Goodbye, Judy Garland," inspired by one of Milk's columns

for the Bay Area Reporter. ▼

The annual candlelight march is coordinated by the Harvey Milk Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Democratic Club, which is offering discounted tickets for The Times of Harvey Milk at the Castro Theatre; information is available by calling (415) 821-2217. Information about tickets to the opera Harvey Milk at the Orpheum Theatre is available by calling the San Francisco Opera Box Office. (415) 864-3330.

BAY AREA REPORTER

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209385

The following person(s) are doing business as FIESTA MERCENARIES, 574 3rd St as FIESTA MERCENARIES, 574 3rd St #123, San Francisco, CA 94107: Chris Ayala, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107: Charles Zimmerman, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107: Charles Zimmerman, 574 3rd St. #123, San Francisco, CA 94107. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Chris Ayala. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 15, 1996. Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208573

STATEMENT FILE NO. 208573
The following person(s) are doing business as SS HIRO, INC., 656 9th Ave, #A, San Francisco, CA 94118: SS Hiro, Inc (CA), 656 9th Ave #A, San Francisco, CA 94118. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 15, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed President Satoru Hirokawa. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 15, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209386

STATEMENT FILE NO. 209386
The following person(s) are doing business as 1. HONEYSUCKLE UMBRELLA
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3. REFLECTIVE ACCESS 4. EARTHBOUND EXCURSIONS 5 DYKES N° US
6. LESBIAN ACRES 7. HONEYSUCKLE
FROTICA 8. HONEYSUCKLE FEMINE
SALOON, 574 3rd St, #123, San Francisco, OA 9410°C thirs Ayala, 574 7rd
Registrant(s) commenced business under
the above fictitious business name on the
date of Nov. 15, 1996. This business is
conducted by an individual. Signed Chris
Ayala. This statement was filed with the
County Clerk of the City and County
of San Francisco, CA on November 15,
1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

Fraud shrink

◆ page 1

At the time of the warrant, Lewis's criminal scheme was condemned by Robert Cebaj, M.D., the president of the national Lesbian and Gay Medical Associa-tion, a membership group of les-

bian and gay physicians.

"It's such a violation. He was preying on some of the most vul-

nerable people," Cebaj said. Lewis had initially attempted to call the clinic Health Continuum, but was force to rename the operation after complaints from Continuum HIV Day Services, Continuum HIV Day Services, where, ironically, he had once unsuccessfully applied for a position as a social worker.

At press time, District Attorney Terence Hallinan was unavailable to comment on Lewis's arrest.

REQUEST FOR BIDS FROM QUALIFIED PROVIDERS

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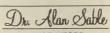
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LEGAL NOTICES

STATEMENT FILE NO. 208410
The following person(s) are doing business as PHOTOGRAPHY ETC., 508A 14th St. San Francisco, CA 94103. Gregory Boyd, 508A 14th St., San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of NIA. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Gregory Boyd. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 7, 1996.
Oct 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208774 STATEMENT FILE NO. 208774
The following person(s) are doing business as MODERN AUTO TOWING, 5662 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94112: Paul Samson, 906 Skyline Dr., Daly City, CA 94015. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 10, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Paul Samson. This statement was filed with the County Cierk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 10, 1996. Oct 31, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 1996.

STATEMENT FILE ND. 209107
The following person(s) are doing business as SUPERIOR MARINE CANVAS, 400
Alabams Street, San Francisco, CA
941.10: Claudine Bailey, 3245 Glendora
Drive, San Mateo, CA 944.03. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above frictitious business name on the date of Oct 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Claudine Bailey.
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 5, 1996. cisco, CA on November 5, 1996. Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208926 FIATEMENT FILE NO. 208926
The following person(s) are doing business as JUST FABRICS, 92 Waterville Street, San Francisco, CA 94124* Doris Onyemaechi Person, 92 Waterville St., San Francisco, CA 94124. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business in a conducted by a 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Doris O. Person. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on October 29, 1996.
Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1996.

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STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 201096 The following person has abandoned the use of the ficticious business known as DIG IT, at 301 Arkansas St., San Francisco, CA 94.110.

TA 43101 Nationals St., Salf Trainstop, CA 94110. The ficticious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on December 29, 1920. March 2015 Name and Address of registrant: CRAIG WILKES DESIGN, 1717 Alabama St., San Francisco, CA 94110. This business was conducted by a corporation. Signed: CRAIG WILKES, President. This statemnet was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date October 8, 1996. Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk Recorder, by Keith Wong, Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209261 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209261
The following person(s) are doing business as SHAMROCK PAINTING, 113 Clayton St., San Francisco, CA 94117: Bernard A. Wallace, 113 Clayton St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov 12, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Bernard A. Wallace. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 12, 1996. CA on November 12, 1996. Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209082 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209082
The following person(s) are doing business as CLOUD'S REST HEALING CENTER, LLC, 2717 Judah St, San Francisco, CA 94122: Cloud's Rest Healing Genter, LLC (CA), 27112 Judah St, San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 22, 1996. This business is conducted by limited liability company. Signed A. Zanagoza, Managing Partner. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 4, 1996.
Nov. 14, 21, 28, Dec. 5, 1996.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES To Whom It May Concern: The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: DREIER MARK D

DREIER MARK D
The applicants listed above are applying to
the Department of Alcoholic Beverage
Control to sell alcoholic beverages at:
1525 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103.
For the following type of Licenses 48 001SALE GENERAL PUBLIC PREMISE
San Francisco District Office, 135 Berry
SI Ste 5600, San Francisco, CA 94107,
413 5573-46. (415) 557-3660 Nov. 14, 21, 28, 1996

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209433 The following person(s) are doing business as BAY IMPORTS, 2210 Stockton St., Suite 212, San Francisco, CA 94133: Rajesh Chandra, 2210 Stockton St., Suite 212, San Francisco, CA 94133. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 18, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Rajesh Chandra. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco. CA on November 18, 1996. Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209144 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209144
The following person(s) are doing business as TONER, 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94106, NBSG III, Inc. (CA), 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 16, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Nicholas J. Lento. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 6, 1996. Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209145 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209145
The following person(s) are doing business as NEW BOSTON, 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108: NBSG III, Inc. (CA), 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108: Rogistrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 16, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Nicholas J. Lento. This statement was filled with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, Can November 6, 1996. Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209146 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209146
The following person(s) are doing business as PLACEMENT PROS, 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108. NBSG III, Inc., (CA), 27 Maiden Lane, San Francisco, CA 94108. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of June 16, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed Nicholas J. Lento. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, Cao november 6, 1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.
FICTITIOUS BILISINFSS. NAME

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209305 STATEMENT FILE NO. 209305
The following person(s) are doing business as CARLSON ENTERPRISES, 501 Octavia SL, Suite 11, San Francisco, CA 94102: David L. Carlson, 501 Octavia SL, Apt #11, San Francisco, CA 94102: Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Nov. 13, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed David L. Carlson. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 13, 1996.
Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 209358
The following person(s) are doing busines
as GALICIA RESTAURANT/POMAIRE
EMPANADA HOUSE: 635 Clay, San
Francisco, Ca 94111: Reinald, E. San
Mateo, CA 9402: Julio Baltar, 4421
Pembroke Dr., Concord, CA 94521. Reg-

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istrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed Reinaldo E. Ramirez. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 14, 1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209332

STATEMENT FILE NO. 209332

The following person(s) are doing business as MEGAQUEST, 1458 26th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122: Marian Laffan, 1458 26th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94122. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Marian Laffan. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 13, 1996.

1996. Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 208899

The following person(s) are doing bus as INCENTIVES TO INTRIGUE, 652

as INCENTIVES TO INTRIGUE, 652
Waller St., San Francisco, CA 94117:
Jim Skiba, 652 Waller St., San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced
business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct. 10, 1996.
This business is conducted by an individual. Signed Jim Skiba. This statement was
filled with the County Clerk of the City and
County of San Francisco, CA on October 28,
1996.

Nov. 21, 28, Dec. 5, 12, 1996

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 209378

STATEMENT FILE NO. 209378
The following person(s) are doing business as LEMON TREE PRODUCTION, 3237
Rivera St., San Francisco, CA 94116:
Lee, Wai Shun, 3237 Rivera St., San Francisco, CA 94110: Chu, William Kwong-Hung, 1381 Earkin St., San Francisco, CA 94109: Cheung, Eric K.Y., 1587 28th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94109: Cheung, Eric K.Y., under the above fictitious business name on the date of Oct 1, 1996. This business is conducted by a general partnership.

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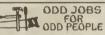
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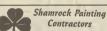
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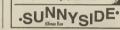
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OCTOBER 1996

Indian scholar R. Raj Rao explores queer identity in the Wildean sense, as subversion and transgression.

Von Buchau believes Jennifer Larmore is laboring under Bartoliitis.



Jerry Herman comes to town with Tune the Grand Up.

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BAYA REAR EPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAIN

Vol. 26 • No. 47 • 21 November 1996

Views through other cameras Moving Pictures: Films by Photographers at SFMOMA by Steven Jenkins hotographers slow the world down into still frames while filmmakers choose life at 24 frames per second. Whether it's because they are impatient with the limitations of their primary form of expression, simply curious about the artistic possibilities of the moving image, or they just desire to tell stories in a fresh way, some of the century's finest-photographers have made rewarding forays into independent (and occasionally commercial) filmmaking.

Some compelling results of this crossover tendency are on view in Moving Pictures Films by Photographers, screening this week through mid-December at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. By pushing the boundaries of established cinematic conventions and adapting photographic techniques to filmmaking, the artists in Moving Pictures have expanded the vocabulary of documentary, narrative, and experimental films just as they have shown us new ways of seeing with their photographs. The diverse roster of artists behind and in front of the camera throughout the series includes Robert Mapplethorpe, Pattismith, Bruce Weber, Man Ray, William Wegman, and Brassai.

The series kicks off with "Surrealistic Tendencies" (November 22 and 24 at 1 p.m.), a collection of seminal short works by the pioneering Lumière brothers, who introduced filmmaking in France in 1895, and others, including that jack-of-all-trades surrealist Man Ray, whose Le Retour a la raison and L'Etoile de mer remain witty, mysterious classics of art cinema. A highlight of this program is Eikoh Hosoe's Navel and A-Bomb, in which abpage 42 Boxer Andy Minsker in a scene from Bruce Weber's Broken Noses, 1987. Queen of camp

Re-issue of classic bio renews interest in "Dexies" and scotch scribe Jacqueline Susann

by Daniel Harris

Lovely Me: The Life of Jacqueline Susann by Barbara Seaman; Seven Stories Press, \$14.95

t the age of four, she made tiny penises out of clay and stuck them onto her teddy bears and Hans Brinker puppets, perhaps the first sign of her obsession with the dolls of her now infamous book's title. She even went so far as to perform Mengele-like experiments on her Raggedy Annes, cutting slits between their legs, explaining to her horrified mother that she wanted to see if their vaginas would "fall out." By the time she was seven, Jacqueline Susann announced prophetically to her best friend Thelma that "I'm going to be famous," although she had considerably scaled back her ambitions by the time she reached high school, telling the editor of her year book that her one ambition in life was not to achieve fame, but to own a mink stole. The daughter of Jewish parents from

page 45 ▶

Katie redux

artfull circle theatre presents Christmas with the Crawfords

Streisand wears five hats, two faces in latest juggernaut

by Robert Julian

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he Mirror Has Two Faces is a romantic comedy about an ugly-duckling English prodisystems in pro-fessor who transforms herself into a swan in order to revive her floundering marriage. The film stars Barbra Streisand, who, in ad-dition to directing and co-pro-ducing the film, also composed

(and sings) the film's love theme, "I Finally Found Someone." In the context of traditional romantic context of traditional romantic comedy, the someone found would be co-star Jeff Bridges, who plays the nerdy math professor husband. But in any Streisand magnum opus, the only possible discovery is found in the actress' own mirror. Therein lies a tale. In order to accept the premise of *The Mirror Has Two Faces*, the

starring Michael Cameron Benbrook as Joan Crawford

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audience must accept Streisand, now in her mid-50s, as Rose Mor-gan, the unmarried, live-at-home daughter of Lauren Bacall. Reclusive and too smart for almost any-One, Rose meets Gregory Larkin (Bridges), a recovering sex-addict math professor who places an ad for a non-sexual female companion in a newspaper. Rose's beautiful and of the provided in the companion of the compan ful and oft-married sister, Claire (Mimi Rogers), answers the ad for Rose, and, after a few false starts, the marriage between homely Rose and hunky Gregory is accomplished — but not consummated. More than two hours later, mated. More than two hours later, after much verbal foreplay, the theme song rises and there is an indication that Rose and Gregory have overcome Gregory's self-imposed celibacy and Rose's long-standing personal insecurity enough to actually make love to each other. Under these circum-stances, it is almost a miracle that The Mirror Has Two Faces works at all, but it does work on several

First, Streisand is a wonderful director. She coaches superlative director. She coaches superlative performances from her co-stars. Jeff Bridges is thoroughly charming, rendering a classic Jimmy Stewart performance, without the accent; and Lauren Bacall and Mimi Rogers are sensational in wonderfully bitchy supporting roles. Tom John contributes an elegant preduction design complexation. roles. Tom John contributes an elegant production design complemented by Theoni V. Aldredge's beautiful costumes. But the most remarkable accomplishment is Richard LaGravenese's literate and amusing screenplay, which takes a basic '40s set-up and successfully reworks it for the '90s. Then there is Straigned the active of the control o is Streisand, the actress.
Although technically on target,

Streisand renders the same per-formance in this film that she of-fered as Katie in 1973's The Way We Were. In all the fundamental character traits, Rose is Katie. If this film were made any time be-fore 1980, it would have been a perfect vehicle for Streisand. But in 1996, Streisand is, frankly, too old for this role — the director should have re-cast the female lead for The Mirror Has Two Faces. Instead, Streisand resorts to elaborate cinematic disguises to hide her double chin and give the ap-

Barbra Streisand as Rose in The Mirror Has Two Faces.

pearance that she is still within shouting distance of 40. She casts a younger leading man and em-ploys not one but two cinematog-raphers — Dante Spinotti and Andrezej Bartkowiak — in a Joan Crawford-style attempt to hold onto a screen image that is no

longer age-appropriate.
In this film, Streisand's vainglorious cinematic efforts to dis-guise her age include: soft-focus lenses; an insistence on left, threelenses; an insistence on lets, inrec-quarter profile shots; camera an-gles above eye level that cast a shadow over the chin; an assort-ment of high-necked sweaters and coats, as well as scarves wrapped coats, as well as scarves wrapped around the neck; and, when all else fails, hands or wine glasses hover just below Streisand's jaw as she delivers lines. For most of the film, Streisand is the ugly-duckling Rose — a state characterized by the absence of lipstick and rouge. Later in the film, Rose, transformed into a swan, becomes a coifed, painted, and aerobicized confection of indeterminate age
— resulting in a Streisand who
bears a remarkable resemblance to Jim Bailey. Not since Warren

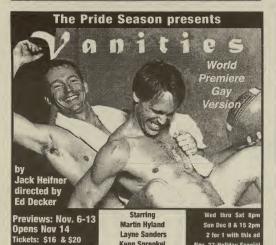
Beatty in 1994's Love Affair has a star gone to such extraordinary

lengths to perpetuate a fading screen presence.

In this respect, Streisand is simply the latest in a long line of mostly female stars who seem unmostly female stars who seem unable or unwilling to allow themselves to age. And in the arc of a career, it is the acceptance of the aging process that differentiates actors from stars. More than anything else, it is this ability — not talent — that separates Bette Davis, Jessica Tandy, and Helen Hayes from the likes of Marlene Dietrich, Joan Crawford, and Lana Turner. If Streisand, the actor, continues to follow in the actor, continues to follow in the latter tradition, she will eternally be indebted to Streisand the producer/director for roles, because no one else will employ her. This is the tragedy behind the comic mirror with two faces; and when it applies to someone with Streisand's incredible talent, it is no laughing matter. ▼

The Mirror Has Two Faces is in

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Grunge rock's 'All About Eve'

sing Seattle's underground music scene as the backdrop, Maria Gargiulo's debut feature, The Year of My Japanese Cousin, is sort of a '90s twentysomething version of All About Eve. Seven Year Bitch lead singer Selene Vigil (right) plays Stevie, a local fixture whose long-time band has been struggling for recognition. Along comes Stevie's Japanese cousin, Yukari, beautifully played by Janis Tanaka (left), guitarist for SF's own Stone Fox. What starts off as a friendly, almost sisterly relationship between the two musising Seattle's underground lationship between the two musi-cians soon turns into bitter rivalry as Stevie watches Yukari wow



ry as Stevie watches Theart wow both her friends and bandmates with her superior guitar playing. Stevie's downward spiral from mentor to rival is documented with frenetic camerawork, quick cuts, and loud music, stylistically complimenting the rock-and-roll storyline. Remarkably — despite its MTV quality — the film is more substance than style, with believable characters, humorous dialogue, and a dead-on depiction of the alternative rock scene.

—Adrian Roberts

The Year of My Japanese Cousin plays through Tuesday, November 26, at the Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight Street. For more info, call 668-8999.

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Dominique Sanda as Micol in The Garden of the Finzi-Continis.

Garden of Eden

The Garden of the Finzi-Continis

by Gary Morris

erious readers were shocked in 1971 when Vittorio de Sica announced he had finally (after ten years of trying) obtained financing to adapt Giorgio Bassani's well-regarded novel The Garden of the Finzi-Continis for the screen. It wasn't just the usual carping that surrounds any cinematic conversion of a beloved literary work. De Sica himself was considered highly problematic. Once a star of the Italian neo-re-Once a star of the Italian neo-re-alist movement, with major achievements like *The Bicycle Thieft* (1948) and *Umberto D* (1952), by the 1960s he had been written off as a lightweight, inca-pable of anything more substan-tial than brittle bedroom farces like *Marriage Italian Style* (1964).

Few were prepared then for de Sica's brilliant return to form. His Finzi-Continis, set in the years 1938 to 1943, is an autumnal work in two senses — the subject is the last golden flash of freedom before one of history's major tragedies, and it represents de Sica's final great work (he made three lesser films after it and died in 1974).

The title refers to the vast, walled grounds adjacent to the

Alberto (Helmut Berger), from the increasingly grim develop-ments outside. We see them as both youngsters and young adults in the film's mix of flashbacks and the present.

The Finzi-Continis are admired and envied by the towns-people. Middle-class Jews like the

The film, recently restored, is a subtle study of the collapse of the spirit in the face of intolerable historical forces.

mansion of a family of wealthy, reclusive Jews in Ferrara, Italy, as Fascism begins to overtake the country. This is a kind of sacred space of innocence, affluence, and protected pleasure that safeguards the last of the Finzi-Contini line, Micol (Dominique Sanda) and

family of Giorgio (Lino Capolic-chio) can hardly believe the Finzi-Continis are Jews — perhaps be-cause of their worldliness and detachment. Giorgio is one of the few invited into the garden and the mansion, where Micol and Alberto play tennis, dance, and lis-ten to Scarlatti and Fats Waller. Giorgio is in love with Micol, but she seems capricious, distracted by a variety of amorous intrigues and a perhaps too-close relation-ship with her brother. Alberto appears to be in love with another pears to be in love with another frequent visitor to the garden, the ruggedly handsome Malnate (Fabio Testi), who indulges Alberto's desperate friendship while having an affair with Micol.

The film contrasts the seeming frivolity and indulgences of life at the Fibral Continion with the me.

frivolity and indulgences of life at the Finzi-Continis with the me-thodical assault on the rights of Ferrara's Jews, who live in less sa-cred spaces. Giorgio is a gifted scholar, but he's turned out of school for the "crime" of Jewish-ness. One of his friends is taken away, significantly, in a movie the-atre, where the "escapism" of cin-ema offers no escape. Just as it provided Giorgio with a romance (however frustrated) in the form provided Giorgio with a romance (however frustrated) in the form of Micol, the house of the Finzi-Continis opens its library so he can continue his studies. But most of the townspeople are enthusiastic supporters of "Il Duce," and Giorgio has little chance to survive, much less study and flourish, unless he leaves. The film gathers its young people for their pleasures in the garden, then slowly disperses them to their doom.

De Sica returned to his neo-re-

De Sica returned to his neo-realist roots here, with only five of the actors professionals and the rest chosen from amateurs from Ferrara and elsewhere in Italy. The film was shot on location in the city in which it is set. On the other hand, the stark black-andwhite of his early work is trans-formed here into luminous pastels that capture the fleeting, dreamlike existence of the Finzi-Continis.

Continis.

The Garden of the Finzi-Continis, recently restored, is a subtle study of the collapse of the spirit in the face of intolerable historical forces. For Giorgio, the film's narrator and central voice, Micol is an ideal that remains always complexed to the first set the substantial control of the film's complexed to the first set the substantial for the first set the substantial control of the first set the substantial films. somehow out of reach, just as the ideal of the garden remains, to the Finzi-Continis, their guests, and the viewer, out of reach.

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Black attack

Karen Black in 'A View of the Heart'

by Matthew Kennedy

aren Black's one-woman show, A View of the Heart, was such a hit at last year's Solo Mio Festival that the actress was asked by the folks at the Plush Room to bring the show there for a two-week run. As Black proves in this unusual tour de force, a melange of songs and character studies, one woman's schizophrenic breakdown is another's inspiration.

inspiration.
Black begins the show with barely audible chit-chat, but no sooner does she mouth these niceties and she's off, trying on a range of characters that includes, among others, a pregnant teen, a Bessie Smith-style blues singer, and a soldier lost in love. Black is backed by a three-piece ensemble. backed by a three-piece ensemble, which is good, because if the show had to rely on her pipes alone it wouldn't get far beyond the start-ing gate. The limits of the actress' vocal range are most conspicuous vocal range are most conspicuous in a screechy operatic rendition of "Eleanor Rigby," and I would argue that the world doesn't need another straightforward delivery of "Send in the Clowns."

This trip with Black is uneven, puzzling, and often laborious — there is almost no discernible protection.

gression from one vignette to the next. Yet, as an actress Black cregression from one vignetic to the next. Yet, as an actress Black creates some intensely memorable characters and situations. She is at her best in comedic studies like the one in which she plays three different vocal coaches, and her torchy ode to overeating, "Too Big to Cry and Too Fat to Get Down," is positively hilarious. Black ably conjures real cabaret glamour for "Ten Cents a Dance," but without a doubt the show's high point is when she puts on red lipstick and sinks her chops into David Bowie's "Time." Equal parts Lotte Lenya and Courtney Love, Black transforms the song into a wailing lament on humanity's comprehension of its own mortality.

There's no doubt that part of what makes this show work is that Black herself is at the helm. She is,

Black herself is at the helm. She is, after all, a gay icon, a status conferred upon her after those glamorous star turns in Airport 1975



Equal parts Lotte Lenya and Courtney Love.

and Nashville. But why does the af-fection run so deep? Perhaps part of our endless fascination with Black has something to do with the singular arc of her career, which, in its dramatic downward trajectory, its dramatic downward trajectory, underscores the definition of camp itself: failed seriousness. Since hitting it big in the late '60s, the actress has careened from playing counterculture babes (You're a Big Boy Now, Easy Rider, Five Easy Pieces) to leading ladies in sorry Hollywood epics (The Great Gatsby, Capricorn One) and horror staples (It's Alive III: Island of the Alive, Auntie Lee's Meat Pies). Directors seem to be transfixed by the ples (It's Alive III: Island of the Alive, Auntie Lee's Meat Pies). Directors seem to be transfixed by the intelligence behind her sometimes crazed, close-set eyes. She was perfect as the delusional starlet in John Schlesinger's The Day of the Locust and as the transsexual in Robert Altman's Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean, When it comes to playing women falling apart, Black has no peer. And in no small way, A View of the Heart's success is indebted to her ability to give shape to the seemingly endless varieties of human hysteria, personalities coming apart at the seams.

Onstage at the Plush Room, Black is no longer victim to the vagaries of Hollywood machinery. She can freely indulge her gift for transformation and be anybody

she wants. During "Time" she looks at her watch and says, "Oh, my God, it's 9:35 — I should be gone by now." Many of us are glad she's not. However bumpy this show may seem at times, there's no doubting that it, like Black herself, is one of a kind. ▼

Karen Black's A View of the Heart, directed by Robin McKee, runs through November 25 at the Plush Room at the York Hotel. Call 885-2800 for tickets and information.





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Flesh feast

by Chad Jones

f you go to the New Conservatory (which keeps living up to its other name: the Nude Conservatory) to see their Gay Pride Season plays and you expect to see a lot of naked male flesh, you won't be disappointed, especially by their latest production, Jack Heifner's Vanities. A long-running, off-Broadway hit, Heifner's play originally depicted the lives of three women friends at three stages in their lives: as cheerleaders in a small-town high school; as sorority sisters at college; and as young women of the world. Well, Heifner has re-written his hit. Vanities is now about three high school football players, all of whom are popular and gay (yeah, right).

Heifner's play doesn't feature any nudity, per se, but director Ed Decker kindly provides the audience with a flesh feast before each of the three scenes begins. The three actors come out to their red lockers, disrobe, and costume themselves for the upcoming act. As for the play itself (and does the play really matter?), the writing is banal and tension-free, the performances unconvincing and underrehearsed, and the production spare to the point of bland.

Vanities continues at the New Conservatory Theatre through December 21. Call 861-8972 for tickets and information.

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Music man

Jerry Herman tunes the grand up

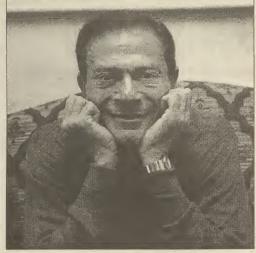
by Chad Jones

erry Herman, our premier craftsman of the good old-fashioned Broadway sound of optimism, spirit and hope, was nearly silenced by AIDS two years ago. As he reveals in Showtune, his new autobiography, Herman was diagnosed HIV-positive following the death of his lover Marty Finkelstein in 1992. The following years were arduous ones for the man who crafted such feel-good hits as Hello, Dolly! and La Cage aux Folles. But a new health treatment soon sent Herman skyrocketing in the other direction. Vigor restored, Herman dove into such projects as the 30th anniversary tour of Hello, Dolly!, an original Christmas television musical called Mrs. Santa Claus starring Angela Lansbury (it airs next month on CBS), the promotion of his book, and the production of Tune the Grand Up, a spirited revue of his work that opened at the Alcazar Theatre last week.

In his suite at the Clift Hotel

In his suite at the Clift Hotel
— the same suite he shared with
Finkelstein when Tune the Grand
Up premiered here in 1985 —
Herman, 63, talked with me recently about his illness and his incredibly full roster of projects, including his book.

"I wanted to tell things no one knew," Herman said. "I wanted to be frank. I've never hidden my sexuality or anything about my



Jerry Herman

life, but I've never really put it on the printed page like this. I've never told about Marty, for example, who was a huge, important part of my life. It was a great catharsis for me."

catharsis for me."

Though parts of the book were painful for Herman, he admitted he was undaunted and felt it was the right time to tell all. "Not because I think it's the end of anything, but because it was the right moment to do it. I can't tell you how wonderful it feels to be healthy again. Two years ago I was spiraling down. I had made plans to very quietly exit. But I don't feel that way anymore."

A quiet exit, though, is hardly

A quiet exit, though, is hardly an appropriate Jerry Herman exit. A new treatment involving protease inhibitors marked a turnaround for him both mentally and physically. "I was not in a state of mind where I wanted to write anymore. You can't write happy songs when you think you're dying. But with the surge in health, the Mrs. Santa Claus project came along at just the right time."

Sama Catus project came atong at just the right time."

The Claus project is Herman's first work for television, and his first musical since 1984's La Cage. He said he was drawn to the project first by the concept of a neglected wife staking out her own place in the world and second by the potentially large audience. "It like writing for the mass audience. Knowing how many people would hear my work in one night turned me or."

turned me on."

Following Bette Midler's success in the TV version of *Gypsy*, there is talk of a TV *Mame*. Herman said he's all for it, but they have to find the actress to portray the flamboyant Mame Dennis. "It's not easy to find a lady who can sing and act and do all she needs to do *and* satisfy the network." Herman paused thoughtfully. "I'm trying to convince Angela to do it."

Herman first worked with

gela to do it."

Herman first worked with Lansbury when she was Broadway's first Mame. Now, 30 years later, she and Herman are together again on the Claus project. "Working with Angela again was the most comfortable thing in the world," Herman cooed. "It was like putting on a wonderful pair of shoes that you've loved all your life and won't throw out. It's not a nice way to say it, and I wouldn't want her to hear that, but it was

that kind of comfort, and she felt

With the publication of his book, which he wrote with the assistance of writer Marilyn Stasio, Herman is revealing more of himself than ever before. And he is quite candid about discussing his homosexuality, too. "I've never had a problem being gay because of the business I chose," he admitted. "It was natural to be gay and Jewish in New York theater. Both were very accepted in my world, so I never felt that sense of persecution. I was very circumspect in the '60s and didn't talk about my private life. Like with the cast of Milk and Honey, my first Broadway show, it just wasn't discussed. They knew I was a gay man, but Molly Picon [the show's star] and I never talked about what I did when I went home. But as the whole attitude toward gays changed, so did my attitude. Soon enough I found myself introducing my boyfriends to Carol Channing, She was delighted. She was very close to Marty. I evolved with the movement."

ing my boyrnends to Carol Channing. She was delighted. She was very close to Marty. I evolved with the movement."

Except for those who feel he is too "commercial," the press has remained respectful of Herman through the years. "I think it's fair to say that when you hit like a meteor, which is what happened to me in the '60s, the press tends to be skeptical about you, and I had skeptics. But they're not there anymore. I don't find anybody today saying anything that isn't warm and caring about me. Longevity has a great deal to do with the attitude of the press. They're more respectful of me now, and I haven't done anything to warrant that, except for the fact that I am here."

At last week's opening of Tune

At last week's opening of *Tune* the Grand Up, Herman took to the stage with the cast for the final curtain call. The ovation was thunderous, and Herman was visibly moved. At one point in the evening a singer performs the song "I'll Be Here Tomorrow," from Herman's 1979 flop *The Grand Tour*. The song pretty well sums up Jerry Herman in 1996: "I'll be here tomorrow/Alive and well and thriving/I'll be here tomorrow/It's simply called surviving ... So let the skeptics say/Tonight we're dead and gone/I'll be here tomorrow/Simply going on."



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The cast of the Jerry Herman revue, Tune the Grand Up.

Zero schmaltz, high energy

by Chad Jones

n the world of musical revues there are those which are ele-gant and focused on the mate-rial and those which feel the need to add all kinds of horrible "busi-ness" to muck up the proceedings, turn the performers into grinning automatons, and force-feed the audience every note of music. Within this spectrum of good and evil, Tune the Grand Up, a musical revue of Jerry Herman's Broadway showtunes at the Alcazar Theatre, falls, mercifully, in the good zone

good zone.

Still, there's no mistaking the tell-tale musical revue components. Joe Ragey's set has the generic awards show/cruise ship quality to it, but at least it's simple: a platform, a staircase with a simple railing, a grand piano, a color-washed, well-lit back-ground, and some stringy design elements off to the sides. The scenery never upstages the six de-lightful performers, who display a wide range of talents and vocal skills. There are only two bits of an otherwise glorious evening: Barbara Valente's overambitious choreography steals focus from the songs and occasionally makes the talented, hard-working cast look foolish. That's simply unac-ceptable. The other glitch is the cliché-ridden, completely unin-formative narration that, thank-Nothing the spoken words tell us can't be gleaned from the music itself. Director Jay Manley could dump the entire text, except for six words spoken near the end: "Words and music by Jerry Her-

Herman is the true star of the evening, displaying a body of work that is dazzling in its tuneful and artfully simplistic craftsmanship. With seven Broadway shows under his belt, from hits like Hello, Dolly! and Mame to lesser-knowns such as Dear World and Mack and as Dear world and Mack and Mabel, Herman is a master — and one of the only remaining practitioners — of the big, bright Broadway sound. A tour through his work is one filled with glittering, show his costimicm.

show biz optimism.

Tune the Grand Up's cast of seven overcomes the big musical revue hurdle of not appearing too fake. In fact, two of the performcrs deliver out-and-out star turns.
Dan Johnson stops the show with his rendition of "A Little More Mascara," from the drag musical La Cage aux Folles. As an actor, Johnson's performance is canny and knowing, and as a singer, he's got the most expressive set of pipes around. Johnson also shines in the hilarious "The Man in the Moon (Is a Lady)" from Mame; the tender and impeccably per-

formed "It Only Takes a Moment" from Dolly!; and the moving "I Don't Want to Know" from Dear World. The other spotlight stealer is Marsha Mercant, whose tender "Time Heals Everything," from Mack and Mabel, is one of the best versions of this magnificent song ever heard. With performers like these singing songs like these, you

just want the showtunes to keep coming. Jerry Herman is truly a master, and *Tune the Grand Up* is a spirited, loving, and well-earned tribute.

Tune the Grand Up continues at the Alcazar Theatre through December 31, Call 392-4400.





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Mass appeal

McNally's 'L!V!C!': crossover hit

by John F. Karr

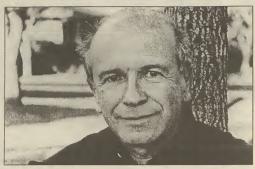
he simultaneous produc-tions of Love! Valour! Com-passion! at Berkeley Rep and The Rose Tattoo at ACT pro-vide an interesting comment on the progress of gay liberation. Both plays were inspired by gay life, and both achieved success on Broadway and beyond. But for Tennessee Williams' Rose to become a mainstream hit in 1950, its homosexual ethos required cam-ouflage. Forty-five years later, Ter-rence McNally's Love! Valour! Compassion! became a crossover hit precisely because its love for

en wasn't disguised.
Powered by this observation, I decided recently to interview Sharon Ott, Berkeley Rep's artistic director for the last 13 years (she is soon leaving the company), and Warner Shook, artistic director of Seattle's Intiman Theatre, who is directing this production of Mc-Nally's play. Their observations on the gay sensibility in L!V!C! provide compelling insight into what McNally really sought to achieve.

B.A.R.: Why this play?

Sharon Ott: Because Terrence McNally is a really interesting and McNaily is a really interesting and vital force in American theatre. He began with very avant-garde stuff, off-the-wall pieces, but now he is probably one of the two or three most successful, widely produced authors working today.
And it's interesting that he came
out just as gay politics was becoming a part of the arts. His
whole process as a writer was in revealing more and more of who he was — is — as a man. Also, he spans a great deal of history with his writing, some 20 to 25 years of theatre history that also happens to be important gay history

Berkeley Rep has a reputation for performing works that attempt to bring ethnic and sexual minorities into the theater. The Asian-influenced The Woman Warrior was a big success, and in the dozen years that you have been artistic director here you've produced



Terrence McNally

works that seem to herald the emergence of so-called gay the-atre into the mainstream — Exe-cution of Justice, The Normal Heart, and now Love! Valour!

SO: In terms of the Asian audience, I felt this was a part of the population that would probably soon be in the majority, and I felt that I should be doing my part to that I should be doing my part to create literature for that popula-tion. I feel the same way about the gay population. This is a growing population, and we're a theatre, so part of our repertoire should include the best plays from that community. And it also happens to be the writing community in America that has been most productive in the past ten years

[To Warner Shook]: What is your interest in this play?

Warner Shook: I think L!V!C! is a very brave and courageous look at how a group of men face their mortality before they should have to. What I love about it is that it's impossible after seeing it that its impossible actor seeking it to categorize gay people as one thing and the mainstream as something else. What Terrence has done so brilliantly with these characters is to show that they are all just like you and me. It's really very much a crossover play.

Was that McNally's intent?

WS: No. Terrence doesn't set out to write a play with the inten-tion of getting this or that audi-ence to see it. I think he writes from a very personal place. And like so many people, he's been dealing with the loss of many people in his life, and he said he wanted to write a play about what his friends were like when no one else was around. And that is exactly what he has done. He's also written with such incredible humor and nuance that it is really contemporary Chekhov.

What aspect of the play do you think surprises audiences most?

WS: It's not the nudity, which most everyone calmly accepts as a depiction of how these men would depiction of how these men would relax in the country. I think what surprises people is the way this play winds up being very moving without the audience knowing. It's like having a rug pulled out from under them. The ability to do that so well is part of Terrence's genius. This is not a plot-driven play. It's one of character and nuance, and the cumulative effect is tremendous. So what starts as something dous. So what starts as something very funny becomes very moving and heavy. ▼

Love! Valour! Compassion! runs through January 3 at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. Call 1-(510)-845-4700 for

Paris was a lesbian

by Gary Morris

ew literary or artistic move-ments have been considered the province of women, but in the case of the "lost generation" of Paris in the '20s, this is a narrow, if not downright wrong, reading of history. While the ac-knowledged stars of this era were men like Hemingway and Joyce, it was women - many of them lesbians — who produced much of the movement's enduring work. Bookstore owners like the American Sylvia Beach and the French Adrienne Monnier innovated the Adrienne Monnier innovated the bookstore as salon, publishing house, and lending library by opening their establishments to writers and artists. Gertrude Stein's salon has been recognized as a pivotal artistic space, but Stein's experimental (if not always intelligible) writings have been seen by many critics as less important than her role as a sort of



Gertrude Stein

butch grandmother who gave encouragement to greater talents like Picasso and Hemingway. And Djuna Barnes, a gifted manipula-John Barlies, a gitted mainputa-tor of language on a par with Joyce, has been largely written off as merely a gifted eccentric. "Paris Was a Woman" tries with varying degrees of success to redress some of these imbalances.

Director Greta Schiller has assembled some exceedingly rare live footage, audio clips, and still photographs that include Beach, Monnier, Stein and Alice B. Toklas, Barnes, Nathalie Barney, and Josephine Baker. In spite of all this rich (and rare) source material, "Paris Was a Woman" has the air of an academic exercise, and a discursive one at that. The section that begins with the title "Djuna Barnes" wanders all over the place before returning to its nominal subject, who remains a mystery. Furthermore, crucial controversies are glossed over, or omitted altogether, for example, Gertrude Stein's still hotly disputed (at least in Stein circles) relationship with the collaborationist Vichy government that allowed her to thrive during the war.

Paris Was a Woman runs November 25-27 at the Castro Theatre.

Iconography

Connie Francis does Davies

by Robert Julian

t's been a bumpy ride for popicon Connie Francis, whose concert last week at Davies Symphony Hall reflected all the triumphs and tragedies of her extraordinary rise and fall. For seven years, as the '50s gave way to the '60s, Francis was the number one female recording artist in America—a teen idol who was equally popular with adults. This nice Italian-American girl amassed 10 gold records with lifetime sales of over 100 million records. But with the 1964 British invasion, her popularity waned, and by the time the summer of love rolled around, Francis' career went south. The worst was yet to come. In 1974 she was raped and beaten in a Long Island Holiday Inn; in the years that followed nasal

surgery ruined her voice; her beloved brother was murdered in a gangland-style slaying; she endured three disastrous marriages; and in the '80s she was in and out of mental institutions for treatment of a manic-depressive condition

dition.

When the singer took to the stage last Friday, she apologized for her laryngitis, a problem exacerbated by her recent appearance at a charity auction South of Market at the Eagle. But the full house at Davies (about 50 percent gay/lesbian) was in a forgiving mood. Dropping her bat-winged, fur-trimmed, black-sequined cape, she launched into some newer standards like "Lonesome Me" and "Wind Beneath My Wings" before offering up the Francis songbook: "Who's Sorry Now," "Stupid Cupid," "Lipstick on Your Collar," "Souvenirs," "V-

A-C-A-T-I-O-N," and the song she introduced as "the gay national anthem," "Where the Boys Are." Francis' voice did a rough approximation of these pop classics, but now that she's pushing 60, the singer's range is more limited and the tonal quality is not as clear as it once was. On the newer songs, Francis also suffered from diction problems that frequently made the lyrics unintelligible.

After intermission, Francis returned and Tom Ammiano preturned and Tom Ammiano pre-

After intermission, Francis returned and Tom Ammiano presented her with a citation from the Board of Supervisors proclaiming November 15 "Connie Francis Day" in San Francisco. With much chatter, Francis acknowledged the audience, the recent death of her father, and a moving and "inspiring" visit she made to Welcome Home Hospice in San Francisco. She concluded the evening with some Italianand Spanish-language favorites before offering a final encore performance of the late Peter Allen's "Once Before I Go."

Whatever failings Francis may have as a vocalist were overshadowed by her essential sweetness and gratitude. The songs that made her famous are from a more innocent time — their lyrics are naive, wholesome, and uncomplicated — and the audience responded as much to their own memories as to the material being presented. Above the 20-piece orchestra, a screen constantly replayed photographs, album covers, and film clips from Francis' career. In spite of her age, Francis is still that extremely likable and sweet little girl, and any criticism of the singer's art must be tempered by her superlative accomplishment as a survivor. \(\bigveenter \)



Connie Francis at the Eagle.

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FILM

Two for the road

by Gary Morris

esterners tend to view mainland China as a monolith incapable of critical analysis of its own history. Some viewers may be surprised then at Li Shaohong's new film, "Blush." Set in 1949 at the beginning of the transition to communism, the film opens with the takeover of a Shanghai brothel and the "re-education" of its whores. Two of them, Qiuyi (Wang Ji) and Xiaoe (He Saifei), are best friends who follow separate paths — the intense Qiuyi becoming the mistress of a rich man, Lao Pu (Wang Zhiwen), while frivolous Xiaoe labors for the state in a textile mill.



whores. Two of them, Qiuyi (Wang Ji) and Xiaoc (He Saifei), are best friends who follow separate paths — the intense Qiuyi becoming the mistress of a rich man, Lao Pu (Wang Zhiwen), while frivolous Xiaoe labors for the state in a textile mill.

After Lao Pu fails to defend her against his mother, the intransigent and now-pregnant Qiuyi shaves her head and joins a Buddhist monastery. Ironically, Xiaoe ends up in a miserable marriage with the father of Qiuyi's child, Lao Pu, forming a lethal love triangle. "Blush" is based on a popular novel by Su Tong, of "Raise the Red Lantern" fame, but the film, with its strong period atmosphere, striking performances, and sometimes subtle attacks on the excesses of the revolution, clearly belongs to this talented director.

"Blush" plays at the Four Star November 21-December 5.

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LATIN EXPLOSION





A scene from Still Moving: Patti Smith, 1978, by Robert Mapplethorpe.

SFMOMA

■ Arts cover

stracted nude men and a group of boys enact scenes of frustrated desire and ritual movement before their tortured rhapsody is blasted by an atomic mushroom cloud. Also noteworthy is Robert Breer's and William Wegman's Blue Monday, a mid-'80s music video for New Order's technorock classic, in which the British band's normally dour presence is enlivened by Wegman's scenestealing Weimaraners and Breer's animated squiggles.

"Visions of America" (Novem-

"Visions of America" (November 22 and 24 at 3 p.m.) features works by such accomplished photographers as Gordon Parks, Elliott Erwitt, and Weegee. Weegee's New York was shot in 1948 at Coney Island, where the artist used concealed cameras to film weekend revelers at play. Historically, the most valuable work in this program is Manhatta, a 1921 collaboration between Charles Sheeler and Paul Strand that blends text culled from Walt Whitman's poems with panoramic shots of the New York City skyline.

New York is also on view in "Street Scenes" (November 29 and December 1 at 1 p.m.), in

which several shoot-from-the-hip photographers explore their city's environs. In Rudy Burckhardt's charming 1953 documentary Under Brooklyn Bridge, boys swim beneath a structure that either separates or links them and their families to Manhattan, while a boy who believes he has killed his brother runs away to Coney Island in the stylistically groundbreaking 1953 narrative Little Fugiitve, a collaborative effort by Morris Engel, Ruth Orkin and Ray Ashley.

er-Bresson's Le Retour, his 1946 study of liberated prisoners returning home to Paris at the close of World War II. Susan Meiselas, Alfred Guzzetti, and Richard Rogers collectively represent a more contemporary approach to reportage with their 1985 film Living at Risk, which chronicles the splintering of revolution in Nicaraeua.

Things get a bit strange in "Definitions & Experiments" (December 6 and 8 at 1 p.m.). Conceptual maven John

In 'Broken Noses,' Weber indulges the pretty boy aesthetics of his fashion photography.

With so many of this century's great photographers honing their skills as photojournalists, it's not surprising that films made by these artists are both technically accomplished and emotionally intimate. "Photojournalism" (Nowmber 29 and December 1 at 3 p.m.) includes Margaret Bourke-White's 1934 investigation of Stalin's legacy, Eyes on Russia, from the Caucasus to Moscow, and the always compassionate Henri Carti

Baldessari deconstructs the essential elements of filmmaking in his 1973 work, *Title*. Words replace pictures as primary emblems of storytelling in Hollis Frampton's 1979 experiment *Gloria*, in which "facts" about the artist's grandmother scroll across the screen in white type, interspersed with silent movie clips and downlows became heaving mentions.

home hornpipe music.

Broken rules and broken noses characterize the three films in "Portraits" (December 6 and 8 at 3 p.m.), unconventional profiles of two cultural luminaries and one ordinary boxer. Robert Mapplethorpe's 1978 work Still Moving: Patti Smith reveals the controversial artists on both sides of the camera as alternately fascinating and maddeningly self-indulgent. As Mapplethorpe keeps the camera rolling on his longtime partner in pop culture crime, Smith poses, postures, and recites her sophomoric poetry in the typical style that thrills her devoters and horse the rest of its.

typical style that thrills her devotees and bores the rest of us.

A writer with a vastly different look and outlook is imaginatively profiled in Bruce Davidson's 1974 film Isaac Singer's Nightmare and Mrs. Pupko's Beard, in which the Yiddish author's life merges with that of a character from his own short story. Far less intellectually captivating than Singer, yet perhaps a tad more photogenic, is boxer Andy Minsker in Bruce Weber's Broken Noses, a 1987 film in which Weber indulges the pretty-boy aesthetics so familiar from his fashion photography advertisements.

tisements.

The series closes with "Three Meditations" (December 13 and 15 at 1 p.m.), a rewarding program of personal films by Danny Lyon, Robert Frank, and Raymond Depardon. Lyon's film is a moving meditation on family, identity, and filmmaking itself.

While not all the films in each

While not all the films in each program will be to every viewer's taste, the diversity of works being screened in Moving Pictures: Films by Photographers makes for an informative and entertaining document of the artistically intertwined histories of film and photography. Diehard film buffs and photography enthusiasts may want to see as many of these films as possible — many of them otherwise hard to find and rarely screened — while more casual viewers can pick and choose among a plethora of highlights.

Moving Pictures: Films by Photographers screens Fridays at 1 p.m. and Sundays at 3 p.m., November 22 through December 15, at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, 151 Third Street. Call 415-357-4000.

Steven Jenkins is a San Francisco-based cultural critic and editor.

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Sexual dissident

Indian author reveals subversive spirit

by Sandip Roy

Raj Rao is an unusual writer. He writes plays about men hiding in toilets and poems with odd titles like Enema and Bomgay. But however unusual his themes and titles, Rao's work — in particular the aforementioned poems, which have recently been made into a short film — provides a rare look into India's underground gay sub-culture. The book that has earned him the most notoriety, though, is One Day I Locked My Flat in Soul City, one of the first collections of short stories with explicit gay content to be published in India. The 41-year-old Rao, a professor of Commonwealth Literature at the University of Pune near Bombay. has been on a reading tour of North America after a stint at the International Writers' Workshop in Iowa. I spoke with him over th phone last week from Montreal.

Sandip Roy: Growing up in Bom-bay, did you know other gay peo-

R. Raj Rao: That was not what I was looking for. I had a fairly strong sexual nature. I just wanted to discover places where I could have casual encounters, and Bombay, in that sense, is a city full of possibilities. I wasn't really concerned about networking. In fact, I was very protective about my anonymity. I didn't want to know people or let them know who I

The turning point came when I went to England on a post-doc-

toral research fellowship. At the lesbian gay society at the univer-sity I met people who were much younger than me who were tack-ling these issues. That was when I realized one could politicize gay-ness as one's identity.

Are gay movements in India imitating the West?

They get their role models and inspiration from the West. I think politicizing something too much tends to essentialize your identity. So in the West all these move-ments are leading to people thinking of themselves as essentially gay, essentially South Asian. That kind of essentializing is good up to a point, but as a writer I enjoy ambivalence.

Is your family aware of your sexuality?

I haven't told them in so many words. But they know what I write about and how I live. But they re-spect my space. It doesn't come up when I spend my weekends at my mother's house.

Weren't you concerned about being open about your sexuality in your work?

I don't know whether everybody necessarily makes a connection between what one writes and what one is. I am not trying to hide it. I am open and at the same time I enjoy the ambivalence. I am not an activist in the sloganshouting, banner-waving sense.
That is not my temperament.
To me, gay identity is subver-



R. Raj Rao

sive and transgressive. It's not an authentic identity. Jonathan Dol-limore's Sexual Dissidence makes this point by using Oscar Wilde and Andre Gide as paradigms. Gide essentialized his gay identity by thinking of it as his authentic identity, whereas Wilde saw his gayness as subversion. He was an aesthete for whom art was more important than anything else. I think I'm closer to Wilde.

How have your students and colleagues reacted to your books?

It's been generally positive. Though after *One Day* came out some people who [had been] close to me suddenly distanced themselves. Students who were talking

Starts Today! • Four Shows Daily

about enrolling in my courses suddenly changed their minds. Obviously none of them would come and tell me it was because of the book. But on the other hand some people get closer.

Is India getting more conserva-

I think this conservatism is a product of the liberalization of the economy. You get co-opted into the establishment. The desire to challenge, to rebel, goes away. So there is no real revolution hap-pening. You can't think of a sexual revolution without simultane-ously thinking of a gender revolu-tion, a class revolution and a caste tion, a class revolution and a caste revolution. I feel a great sense of bonding with the Dalit people, who are disempowered because of caste just as I am because of my sexuality. The relationship between an upper-caste Brahmin and a Dalit is similar to a heterosexual person and gay person in terms of what privileges you have and what you don't have. In fact I have a relationship with a Dalit boy. For him to be gay and Dalit is a double disprivilege. I met him as I have met so many other casual lovers who have then disappeared. The novel I am planning to write is based on this relation-

What about class issues? You mentioned that you wouldn't necessarily take people you meet for casual encounters to a party.
Would you take him?

Among some upper-class gays in Bombay there is great class bias. And he wouldn't fit there. But, as I said, for me gayness is transgression and subversion. I am not in favor of gay marriages because then we get co-opted into the di-alectic of straight culture and pa-

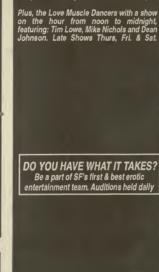
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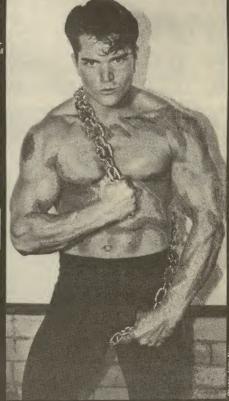






COMING ATTRACTIONS

Bo Sommers starting Nov. 28th Logan Reed starting Dec. 5th





Knock it off, please!

Mega mezzo Jennifer Larmore

by Stephanie von Buchau

omewhere in the middle of the overwrought Mozart set in mezzo-soprano Jennifer Larmore's comprehensive recital at Herbst Theater last Thursday, I remember thinking that if the red-haired Georgia peach were paired on stage with baritone Bryn Terfel, the first ten rows of the audience would have to be issued hard hats

After several generations of dreary, sober, tasteful singers nearly killed off the art form, a new bunch of flame-throwers — Larmore, Terfel, Cecilia Bartoli, Dmitri Hvorostovsky, Wolfgang Holzmair

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— have remade the song recital into an enthralling, overwhelming, gonad-tickling, sometimes exhausting "event." Not always, alas, to the benefit of the music.

The problem with Larmore has nothing to do with her voice or technique. She has more than or technique. She has more than enough of both. But she seems to be suffering from a Bartoli complex. The darling Cecilia, without paying any dues, was elevated to international stardom by an adroit combination of her own talent and extraordinary hype. Meanwhile, the American mezzo every bit Bartoli's equal in sheer vocal endowment in baroque obscurity in Europe. You only have to listen to Lar-

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more's recordings from this era — the finest may be Handel's Giulio Cesare with conductor Rene Iacobs, period instruments, and the adorable Barbara Schlick as Cleopatra (Harmonia Mundi; four discs) — to recognize that Larmore is the best baroque singer America has produced since Marilyn Horne. Baroque laurels were not enough for the ambitious mezzo, however; her el-egant *Cesare* has yielded now to the aggressive gargoyle we encountered in SF Opera's recent Barber of Seville, on her new recording of Carmen (Teldec), and sometimes in this solo recital.

and sometimes in this solo recital.

The voice is so big and beautiful that you want to scream,
"Knock it off!" when she pretentiously distorts the vowels in Dido's "Lament" ("When I yam laid in earth") or in Rossini's "La Regata Veneziana" (a Bartoli specialty). In her American set which regata veneziana (a bartoi spe-cialty). In her American set, which included the traditional "He's Gone Away," arranged by local composer Jake Heggie, Larmore introduced at least eight different accents in five songs, from broad Irish to Southern sweetie pie. I'm sure she has intellectual justification for delivering "At the River" like a pious Sunday school teacher, but I don't want to know

what it is. Yet, if one thought that oversinging, overinterpreting, and overacting were Larmore's entire overacting were Larmore's entire musical personality, they were confounded by her French and Spanish sets. Two Gounod songs, "L'absent" and "Bolero," were delivered with a spray of vocal eroticism (encouraged by the rhythmic strumming of piano accompanist Antoine Palloc) while Spanish songs by Nin, Obradors and Guastavino emerged sensual, relaxed, and heated to just the right temand heated to just the right temperature. Jennifer Larmore has a great voice, but she will not be a great artist until she stops wrestling with music and learns instead to surrender to it.



The Mozart set was a bit too much of a good thing

R. Raj Rao

■ page **43**

triarchal values, which have been responsible for our repression in the first place. So if I found some-body from my own class then it's like everything else is the same as in any straight marriage! That to me is not interesting at all.

Of course love and sexual at-

Of course love and sexual attraction is involved, too. But I was always attracted very strongly to people from the working classes. People say this is a gay thing, but I find it fits in well with how I per-ceive my gayness as subversive ac-

How did "Bomgay" come about?

Riyad Wadia, who made the documentary Fearless Nadia [SF Lesbian and Gay Film Festival 1994], wanted to film some of my stories. wanted to him some of my stories. Meanwhile, the lowa workshop asked me to bring some video recordings of my work. I asked Riyad if he could help. He was originally going to just film me reading. But after he read the six

poems, he wanted to make them into short films. And now it just premiered at the London Film

It seems that in the West gay themes are permissible in litera-ture as long as they end tragical-ly, or at least wistfully. Is that true in India?

A lot of people think my stories are pessimistic. But my writing tends to have a lot of self-deprecation and irony. So I think my pes-simistic endings have to do with

What's next?

In December I go back to India. Back to what is my reality. ▼

R. Raj Rao will present a screening of *Bomgay* at A Different Light Bookstore on Sunday, November 25 at 3:30 p.m. Call 431-0891 for information. Rao's work will be available soon at A Different Light.



THEATRE

Soul brother melt-down

ew York performer Idris Mignott dons several identities in his one-person tour-de-force Banjy Pussy Raging, coming to Josie's November 27. Mignott's show, called a "testament to the power of the attitude problem" by the Village Voice, explores, analyzes, and defies stereo-

analyzes, and defies stereotypes about women, sexuality, class, race and glamour. About the title, Mignott says "banjy" refers to gay men of color, a butch persona, "sort of a 'gay homeboy' term"; "pussy" recalls the pejorative expression for an effeminate man; and "raging" is slang for having a good time and being angry at "those things that make us crazy."

Idris Mignott is an award-winning writer, performance artist, and self-described "soul brother from way back." Banjy Pussy Raging ing is directed by Daisy von Scherler Mayer, who has directed many off-Broadway shows and recently directed (and co-wrote) the movie Party Girl, starring Parker Posey. Banjy Pussy Raging runs through December 8 at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. Call 861-7933 for tickets (\$12) and information.

Jacqueline

■ Arts cover

Philadelphia, Susann was never the bashful, stammering convent school girl that she later falsely school girl that she later falsely claimed to have been, but was an outrageous enfant terrible whose irrepressible chutzpah emerged as early as 15, when, livid with anger, she lept into the ring of a professional wrestling match to slap, kick, and claw the brute who was mauling an athlete she had a crush on. She was later to put her skills as a wrestler to good use when, smiling broadly, she reportedly snatched the silver cup out of the hands of a judge at a beauty contest before he had the chance to announce another winchance to announce another win-ner, thus stealing the award for the "prettiest girl in Philadelphia," to say nothing of the ballsiest, brassi-est, and most vulgar.

Such were the early years of a woman Truman Capote once dubbed "a truck driver in drag" (although he later apologized to the truck drivers), "a born transvestite" whose hilarious and vestite" whose hilarious antics and appalling sense of style have become almost synonomous with the '60s and early '70s. Barbara Seaman's camp tour-de-force Lovely Me, now in re-issue from Seven Stories Press, takes the reader from Susann's earliest years as an aspiring synecological surgeon an aspiring gynecological surgeon in Toyland to her final months in a hospital when, dying of breast cancer at the age of 56, this former beauty queen grew a full beard from the ravaging hormonal ef-fects of chemotherary. Seamon has done a magnificant job in bringing to life a woman she de-scribes, with sympathy, humor, and respect, as a kind of feminist juggernaut, a hard-nosed careerist Juggernaut, a nard-nosed careerist who was such a lousy housewife that her refrigerator was always bare, save for cocktail mixes and the Nembutal suppositories she used to put herself to sleep.

Susann started her career as an unsuccessful show girl who kept herself in shape by going on crash diets of "dexies" and scotch, a toxic combination that enabled toxic combination that enabled her to pour herself into the slinky outfits with plunging necklines that she once called her "sireen" dresses. She moved from bit parts in chorus lines to television commercials for such products as Schiffli embroidery, whose longrunning advertisements brought her a kind of notoriety. (Although, after the company canned her, she announced on a popular radio program that "I would sooner wear a salami around my neck than a Schiffli embroidered collar.") Through her theatrical work, she struck up a friendship (which quickly escalated into a full-scale lesbian obsession) with Ethel Merman, as well as with a chubby Bronx housewife who fell head over heels in love with Susann after spotting her in a chorus sann after spotting her in a chorus line, even buying her off the auc-tion block at a charity fundraiser. Aside from a few brief flings with women, however, Susann was both a committed heterosexual and an outspoken proponent of oral sex, a self-proclaimed swal-

money she made and the interna-tional attention she received, literature was not a real vocation for Susann but a means to an end — fame. (She once said, with withering scorn, "I don't think any novelist should be concerned with literature.") If she could have achieved her goal in some less. achieved her goal in some less onerous way — by launching her own line of perfume or marrying into the Royal Family — one sus-pects she would have welcomed the opportunity and saved herself all the sweat and tears of squab-bling with the contemptuous ed-itors who reluctantly undertook the Herculean task of creating a crude semblance of order out of

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Susann was an outspoken proponent of oral sex, a self-proclaimed swallower.

lower who often lectured her friends on the medicinal proper-ties of semen, which she believed contained essential "vitamins and minerals," as well as hormones that made it "great for your skin." ("I use it as a facial mask whenev-(Tuse it as a racial mask whenever I can ... You leave it on ten minutes until it stiffens, then wash it off with cold water," a character explains in "Once Is Not Enough.")

Realizing that she was getting nowhere in show business, Susann began fumbling around desperately for some other means of fulfilling her prophecy to her friend Thelma and, quite by accident, lighted on an old clunker of a manual typewriter. Beginning in the early 1960s, when she published her first book, Every Night, Josephinel, about her poodle, whose toenails she painted blue and whom she spoiled with caviar, Bloody Marys, and chopped-liver birthday cakes, writing became the key to her success, especially three steamy blockbusters whose salaciousness blockbusters whose salaciousness and yellow-journalistic wallowing in the decadent lives of sex-crazed should be decadent lives of sex-crazed celebrities earned her more than \$8,000,000 between 1966 and 1972. Valley of the Dolls, The Love Machine, and Once Is Not Enough ushered in the era of the literary superstar whose astronomical advances have been impoverishing less well-known writers ever

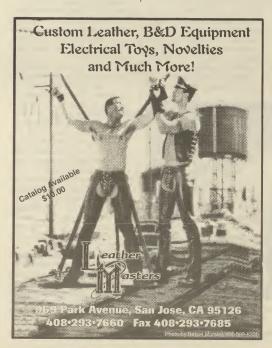
Despite the vast sums of

the rambling, incoherent pages of pap she spewed forth in such co-pious quantities. Susann embodies a very modern concept of celebrity, in contrast to the old-fashioned view of fame as the just reward for the gifted artist, the great genius whose unusual abilities merited the attention of enormous audiences of admirers. She was a fundamentally talentless person who stumbled into the arts, not because she had any natural skill as a performer or writer, but because she was in love with publicity, eager to thrust herself into the limelight even though she had nothing to sell and was utterly bereft of any innate aptitude, except, of course,

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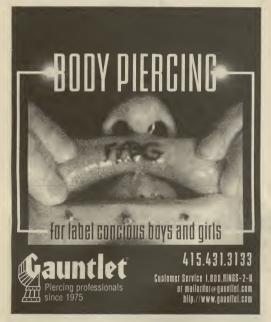


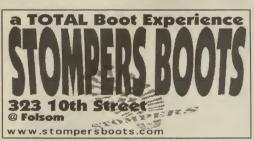




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Leathermen and **Connie Francis raise** \$7440 for charities

by Mister Marcus

n the short span of a week, leathermen in San Francisco and San Diego raised \$7,440 for AIDS charities with their joie de vivre, dedication and caring. It all started Sunday, Nov. 10, with all started Sunday, Nov. 10, with the dungeon tour by former Leather Daddy Steve Gaynes and leather/SM icon of The 15 Associ-ation, Peter Fiske. Dungeon Tour '96 was both a titillating and ed-ucational foray for both the uninitiated and veterans of the scene into various dungeons in San Francisco. The tour raised \$3400 for the AIDS Emergency Fund

On Wednesday, Nov. 13, Coming Home Hospice got a \$2500 haul for their coffers due to the generosity of several hundred people who showed up at the SF-Eagle to meet and greet legendary songstress Connie Francis. Former Leather Daddy Cornelius Con-boy got picked to emcee the event, which saw many "leather heavies" bidding on Con-nie's hats, feather boas, patent leather pumps and even a bugle-beaded gown, plus CDs, albums, books, photographs, etc La Francis admitted

that she cleaned out her attic of "junk" she never thought would fetch a penny! The butchest of the butch (surprise) were the most feverish in bidding

for the Connie memorabilia.

The Connie Francis
Look-Alike Contest yielded a
quartet of aspirants, three of
whom were intent on injecting a whom were intent on injecting a spirit of camp into the proceedings. One actually made a serious effort to look like Ms. Francis. Connie was the judge and promptly gave the winner, "Angelina," four passes to her show and four backstage passes as well. Angelina was to be introduced onstage at Connie's show at Davies, but I couldn't be there to verify that she actually out her 15. verify that she actually got her 15 minutes of stardom.

No prude, Connie deftly autographed T-shirts, photos, CDs and a few fuzzy butts – to the deand a few fuzzy butts – to the de-light of the crowd. In a stirring fi-nale, Ms. Francis sang along with a recording of the unforgettable "Where the Boys Are," and



Onstage at the San Diego Eagle were (I to r) Mike Rand, Michael Wieland, Mister Marcus, Joey Faria and Randy Wright for the Bare Chest Calendar benefit on Sat., Nov. 16.

passersby and the wall-to-wall crowd inside loved it! Everyone left the event with a sense that love and caring does indeed exist outside our own community.

Last weekend, eight of the 12
1997 Bare Chest Calendar winners trekked (at their own expense!) to San Diego to be honored and to autograph the calendar at the San Diego Eagle on Saturday night, Nov. 16.

Calendar cover man Mike Wieland hosted the event, a benefit for SF's

event, a benefit for SF's AIDS Emergency Fund and San Diego's "Special Delivery," an AIDS home meals delivery

service.
The San Diego
Eagle was packed for
the event that saw a lot of former
Mr. San Diego Leather winners
(Ed Morgan, Taurus Webster and
Zak Topor) and others on hand to
lend their support. A very fun,
profitable night (\$1540) and a
noteworthy event which proved a
huge success

Bazaar

Aside from the "official" aspects of the San Diego trip, know that the calendar men were not adverse to receiving "certain perks" as a result of their volunteerism. Lee Tucker got himself involved with the very single forward. mer Mr. San Diego Leather Ed Morgan; Juan Carlos met a "number" from the area the night be-fore at the Gay Night at Disney-land party; and if psychic predic-tions are to be believed, we may be able to have the pick of the litter from the union of John Edwards and Martyn Jones!

Hey, it was a week when I was able to discard my feelings about

leathermen being bitchy and downright vicious to each other. From the dungeon party to the Bare Chest Calendar benefit in San Diego, leathermen raised tons of money and, best of all, had a great time doing it. My deep appreciation to everyone involved with all three benefits!

The weather over the weekend did little to dampen anyone's enthusiasm, including the 49ers, who fought it out at Candlestick against Baltimore and were victoagainst Baltimore and were victorious in the end – much to the delight of the big crowds watching the battle on TV at the Lone Star, the Eagle and other leathery places. Delays at SFO for incoming and outgoing flights were legion, but everyone got there and back – and hedonism prevailed in the Golden State.

the Golden State.

No word at my deadline on who won the highest leather title in New York on Saturday night, Nov. 16, but stay tuned! And I fa-

Nov. 16, but stay tuned! Ånd Ť finally met the new Mr. SF Bear;
he's this gorgeous dude by the
name of Bill Adams. You'll see
him in this column as soon as I
can photograph him.

By the time you read this, Bob
Bowling, the longtime veteran
bartender, assistant manager and
lately the main man/kahuna at the
SF-Eagle, has resigned his position and moved south to live a tion and moved south to live a low-key life in Long Beach. Eagle patrons from near and far have fond memories and a huge amount of affection for Bob, whose unique brand of friendli-ness was a huge asset to the suc-cess of the Eagle.

cess of the Eagle.

Bob was not comfortable in the spotlight, yet he carried on the legacy established by Eagle managers before him and did strive to maintain the status quo of that fabled bar. A bon voyage party was held for Bob this past Monday night (I west's in charge of the innight (I wasn't in charge of the in-vitations!), and friends, acquain-tances and bar habitués paid homage to Bob Bowling. Yes, of course, we will miss him.

At my deadline, Joe Perry is slated to be the Eagle's acting manager. I must also inform you here and now that no, I have not applied for this position! How do

The holiday season is just around the corner, and you'll be called upon to donate time and/or money to benefit those less fortunate than yourself. Be kind and generous, and I'll say thanks now in advance. In the meantime, keep living, laughing and loving – just do it in leather! ▼



Diva Connie Francis was only slightly squeamish about signing bare buns at the SF-Eagle benefit last Wednesday, Nov. 13, for Coming Home Hospice.

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, Nov. 21

Constantines MC \$6 beer bust at Daddy's, 2000-2300, benefits Rita Rockett's SFGH Sunday

Friday, Nov. 22

If you're in Austin, Texas, you might want to go to the grand opening of The Cuff Bar-Austin, the first of a franchise by the Cuff Bar-Seattle. And you might as well know that before 1997 is over, there will be a Cuff Bar in Denver and one in San Diego! Go, Carmen!

Saturday, Nov. 23

The Golden Gate Guards celebrates its 10th anniversary tonight, with an invitation only/club overlay reception at the SF-Eagle, 1900-2200, with a buffet and no-host bar. They'll also introduce their

buffet and no-host bar. They'll also introduce their new officers, but no new uniforms!

Pre-turkey \$6 beer bust at Daddy's, 1500-1800, benefiting the AIDS Emergency Fund, with raffle prizes for cash and other goodies.

Monthly play party by The 15 Association, \$10, BY0B, sodas provided. Call 673-0452 for time and location. You must accompany your guests! Trim, shave and buzz-cut station will be open!

Tuesday, Nov. 26

Annual Turkey Shoot begins at 2100 at the Eagle. Get a raffle ticket for every drink you buy. Drawings for a free turkey every half-hour until closing!

Wednesday, Nov. 27

Leather Buddies play party at 933 Harrison. Doors open from 2100 to 2300. Wear leather, boots and no cologne. Call 979-0242 for details.

Thursday, Nov. 28

Hey, it's Thanksgiving. Give generously. Enjoy yourself and help out by volunteering if you can find the time!

Weekend, Nov. 28-Dec. 1

Leather weekend in Toronto, with contest to name Mr. Leatherman Toronto. Meet and greet on Friday; contest is Saturday night. IML Joe Gal-lagher will host the Leatherman's Ball.

Saturday, Nov. 30

Choosing leather daddy, daddy's boy and grand-dad at The Cuff in Seattle at 1900 tonight, with entertainment by Seattle Empress Coco. Call (202) 233-8141

233-8141.

Tony Award-winner Jennifer Holliday headlines at Club Universe (177 Townsend) tonight, a benefit for the Ark of Refuge AIDS Program. Doors open at 2130; you can reserve by calling 985-5241.

Sunday, Dec. 1

It's World AIDS Day! International Mr. Deaf Leather Daniel Sonnenfeld and Ms. Golden Gate Leather Beth Downey host an \$8 beer bust at the Eagle for the MCC Foundation, with Jungle Red performing. Don't miss this one!

Wednesday, Dec. 4

Lou Duff presents, "Let's Go Shopping," a walking tour of the heavy leather and bondage devices at A Taste of Leather, 1800-1920, \$10, with 15% in-store discounts for you!

Thursday, Dec. 5

Basket contest at The Edge, with a \$6 beer bust, 2000-2300. Contest is at 2200. Win \$100 cash and a photo session with Joe Balducchi.

Saturday, Dec. 7

Besides being Pearl Harbor Day, it's Santa's Slave Auction at the Turf Club in Hayward, 2000-2300, with a \$5 beer bust or \$8 beer and food, entertainment, plus 50/50 drawing to benefit the In Memory Foundation. Bare Chest Calendar guys in

Beach blanket biddy

by Sweet Lips

es, gentle readers, though I hate to leave you at this festive time of year, I soon will be whisking my way to Puerto Vallarta (with Dick Deemer, Barvaniaria (with Dick Deemer, Bar-ton Dreyer and Chaz) for some much-needed R&R, not to men-tion TLC. While you're slogging through another gray, drizzly San Francisco day, think of me sun-Francisco day, think of me sun-ning my curvaceous form south of the border (for two weeks starting Dec. 2!), surrounded by my usual coterie of ever-attentive cabana boys — all over 18, of course. Instead of my zircon-studded thong, I decided to pack my white one-nicer the same one my white one-piece, the same one Elizabeth Taylor (an old and dear friend) wore in Suddenly Last Summer. As you probably remember, a little eau splashed on the

garment renders it practically transparent, so you can be sure I'll be body-surf-ing the Pacific the whole time I'm there. Hang ten! While I've

never been one to toot my own horn, I would be remiss not to report this year's observance of a Polkstrasse tradition: my birth-day! Numero 74! Of course, when day! Numero 74! Of course, when you're both ageless and eternal, it doesn't matter quite so much; nevertheless, the Polk-Rendezvous (1303 Polk St.) requests your presence on Sunday, Dec. 1, 3-7 p.m., to celebrate this annual event. There'll be a fab Mexican fiesta by Dennis "Tapas and Tenderizer" Tyler, with outstanding decor by Barton "Doilies and Drapes" Dreyer. Steve Suss of the Embers/Avenue in Portland and his Craig Kelly are flying down for the soirée, so do join us for a



Bob Golovich surrounded by four Southern Belles at Lupann's restaurant.

natal day libation!

Another much heralded annu-al event (and deservedly so) is Ten-derloin Tessie's free Thanksgiving Day din-ner, 1-4 p.m., First Uni-tarian Universal Church, 1187 Franklin Street (at Geary). This meal is donated and prepared by members of our **Cocktail Hour**

gay community, and everyone is invited to partake of the enticing eats. To volunteer for or donate to this extremely worthy cause, please call A.L. Allen at 921-5026 or Empress Phyliss at 863-5277 or the leg-endary Leona at 775-3260. Do it

now and be a better person for it!

Dolly Dale and his mother
Agnes will be here for a week dur-

Agnes will be nere for a week dur-ing Thanksgiving, making Dick Cook very happy.

Say Chip, how is your Grand-Nephew Jacob down there in Madera?

To my esteemed column mate, Monsieur Marcus: Yes, I've been down on the planks once or twice (but who's counting?), but at least

I knew where I was if not how to

Pknew where I was if not how to get back up again!
Did you know that The Q T
(1312 Polk St.) has new bands every Friday and Saturday nights at 9:30 p.m. — plus hot male strippers on Sundays at the same time. These boys will put a crease in your pants (I'm not saying where) and starch in your shorts. John Houser is still on the plank, natch

natch.
Sad news for Polkstrasse
habitués: The Gate Bar is closing
its doors Dec. 23. All of the staff
have been given four weeks' notice (just in time for Christmas).
The bar, which will be completehy remodeled and respon in Janua. ly remodeled and reopen in January, has been bought by the owner of that too trendy Market

owner of that too trendy Market Street eatery, Mecca. Don't expect drink prices to go down, darlings. The Lone Star Saloon, home away from home for some of the B.A.R. staff, has already planned many holiday events, including a big Thanksgiving Day bash. No telling what that bird will be stuffed with! Check out the fun. Right, Jerry Olsen?

Here's wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving! Gobble, gobble! ▼



Got a free hand?

Under One Roof has openings Service Organizations by giving as little as 3 hours of your time volunteers throughout the holiday season. You can lend a hand to can lend a hand to or Don at 252-9430.

THE SHOP THAT RENEFITS THE AIDS COMMUNITY



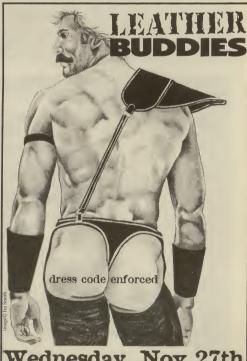
The Bear Store 367 Ninth Street

between Folsom and Harrison 415.552.1506

Open Mon-Sat 10:30-6

* T-shirts * videos * books * mags *
 * sex toys * cards * novelties *
 * belts * custom dog tags * dildos*

BAD BEAR CLUB * DADE/URSUS * FRAN FRISCH



Wednesday, Nov 27th Door 9-11, call 979-0242

TEA

Two big deals

wo noteworthy events coming up this week:

Big Deal is an art exhibition

Big Deal is an art exhibition and sale on Saturday, November 23 benefiting Visual Aid, the non-profit agency which presents and preserves the work of Bay Area visual artists living with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses. Artworks for sale (on a first-come, first-served basis for \$75) include photographs, paintings and drawings from such artists as Barry McGee, I. John Priola, the late Jerome McGee, J. John Priola, the late Jerome Caja, Gay Outlaw, Spaulding Taylor, and Enrique Chagoya, among a host of others. Ten dollars gets you into the SOMAR Gallery at 934 Brannan, and seventy-five bucks for the art is a bona fide bargain—you won't see work by most of these artists at that price again. Priority numbers to buy the art will be handed out at the door beginning at 4 p.m.; word is that some die-hards will be camping out outside the gallery in order to be among the first in line.

The proceeds from the sale and a \$1 raffle (with prizes from the Gaunt-

\$1 raffle (with prizes from the Gaunt-let, American Airlines and others) help buy art materials so creative spirits can go on working— it's a good cause. This 3rd annual event has a track record as popular and good exposure for the artists. We're promised a party atmosphere, with the cavernous SOMAR space filled to capacity with

The other big deal this week is the third annual Other Minds Festival, a series of performances and panel discussions by avant garde composers and musicians which begins today (Thursday) and continues through Sunday. Artístic Director Charles Amirkhanian hosts musical luminaries Laurie Anderson, Kronos Quartet, Henry Kaiser, David Raksin and others. Highlights David Raksin and others. Highlights include Anderson's performance of a work in progress, tonight at Center for the Arts; and the West Coast premiere of La Monte Young's Chronos Kristalla performed by Kronos, with a light environment by Marian Zazeela, Sunday night at Hertz Hall in Berkeley. Call 978-ARTS for Yerba Buena performances, (510) 642-9988 for Cal Performance dates. ▼



Kronos Quartet (left to right) Joan Jeanrenaud, John Sherba, Hank Dutt and David Harrington perform LaMonte Young's *Chronos Kristalla* Sunday night at Hertz Hall, part of the Other Minds Festival III. See Calendare.

Angel Dive

New work by Scott Wells and Dancers. Fri. & Sat. at 8:30pm thru 11/30. \$10-15. ODC Performance Gallery Theater, 3153 17th St. 863-9834.

Confess

6th annual entry fee-free juried exhibition opens tonight, 6pm. Tues.-Sat. thru 12/21. Southern Exposure, 401 Al-abama. 863-2141.

En Drag

Female impersonators in revue. Fri. at 10pm & mid-night. \$3, two drink min'm. Kimo's Penthouse, 1351 Polk. 885-4535.

David Harrison's performance, transsexual journey from female to male. Thurs.-Sun. at 8:30pm (7:30pm on Sun.) thru 11/24. \$12-15. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Gloria in Excelsis

DC Scarpelli's tragic farce set in gingerbread housing devel-opments of Ohio. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 11/23. \$7. EXIT

Theatre, 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

Hoist

A dance that will pull you up A dance that will pull you up choreographed and directed by Jo Kreiter. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 5pm thru 11/24. \$12. Brady Street Dance Center, 60 Brady. 558-9355.

Honey Van Campe

Demonstrating recipes and beauty tips from 'The Drag Queen Cookbook," free. 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble, 2550 Taylor. 292-6762.

Karen Black

"A View of the Heart,"
evening of cabaret and spoken
word. Wed.-Sun. thru 11/24,
call for times. \$18-25.
Tonight at 8&10pm. Plush
Room, 940 Sutter.
885-2800.

Relative Values

Relative Values Chamber Theatre's production of Noel Coward's comedy runs Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 11/24. \$18. Phoenix Theatre, 301 8th St. 346-3107

The Rose Tattoo

ACT presents Tennessee Williams' comedy of love and redemption on the Gulf Coast. Tues.-Sun. thru 11/24, call

for times. Tonight at 8pm. \$19-47.50. Geary Theater, 415 Geary. 749-2228.

The Tearjerker Show

Cabaret song stylist Cara Vida performs Cole Porter, Peggy Lee, Leon Redbone. 11/22 & 29 at 10pm. \$10. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

The Two-Bit Tango

Dyke detective comedy based on Elizabeth Pincus' novel, adapted by Mercilee Jenkins and Sara Felder. \$10. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

You Goin' On About Sex?

ABOUT Sex? Queer performance, dance, and spoken word, features Veronica C. Combs, Chris Kammler, Jill Nagle, more. Fri. & Sat. at 8pm. \$8-12. Luna Sea Women's Perfor-mance Project, 2940 16th St., #216C. 863-2989.

Beer Bust

Benefits Home Care Aides of Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. \$6. 5-9pm. My Place, 1225 Folsom.

Beer Bust

SF Leather Daddy XIV Loren Berthelsen presents benefit for AIDS Emergency Fund. \$6. 3-6pm. Daddy's, 440 Castro.

Benefit Fashion Sale

SF Craft & Folk Art Muse-um's 4th annual fashion and jewelry sale: work by Obiko, Jeanne-Marc, more. \$6. 11am-4pm. Conf. Ctr., Bldg. A, Fort Mason. 775-0990.

Big Deal

Visual Aid's benefit art exhibit and sale (see Calendare). \$10. 4pm. SOMAR Gallery, 934 Brannan. 777-8242.

Brides of the Moon

The Five Lesbian Brothers play an all-woman space crew play an all-woman space crew on a top-secret mission to the moon. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm thru 12/15. Call for times of matinee/twilight shows. \$12-25. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Gay Comedy Night

Tom Ammiano, Sabrina Matthews, Danny Williams. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret,

3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Inspiracy

Lesbian/gay a cappella octet, director Gregg Tallman, in concert of Jazz and pop. Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm. \$10-15. First Unitarian Church, Franklin at Geary. 285-0936.

Lesbigay Radio

Queer music & comedy: pundits, politicians & pioneers. Sat. nights at Midnight. 1450 AM. 1-800-GAY-6550.

Miss Trannyshack Pageant

Pippi Lovestocking and Hekli-na present drag/ crossdresser/ transgender title bout. \$6. 10pm. Stud, 9th & Harrison.

N.I.C.E. 96

N.I.O.E. 70 New Italian Cinema Events screenings 11/23-25, 11/29-12/1. Opening night reception (6pm) and film, \$20. Other films \$7. Delancey St. Screening Rm., 600 The Em-barcadero. 931-FILM.

Sharon Art Studio

Art classes and workshops for winter, registration today at 10am. Golden Gate Park. 753-7004.

Suzanne Westenhoefer

Lesbian supercomedian. \$14.50-15.50. 7:30 & 10pm. Great American Music Hall, 859 O'Farrell. 885-0750.

Video Night

Marin Bay Area Career Women show "Celluloid Clos-et," potluck. \$3. 6:30pm. Call for location. 892-0509.

Antiques and Collectibles

300 dealers selling all types of collectibles, indoor flea market. \$2. 10am-5pm. Pier 29, Sansome at Embar-cadero. (510) 254-8931.

Harvey Milk

San Francisco Opera presents new opera about legendary gay rights leader. Thru 11/30, call for dates and times. Today at 2pm. \$8-125. Or-pheum Theatre, 1192 Mar-ket. 864-3330.

MACT Potluck

Men of All Colors Together potluck brunch, theme: Chi-nese Food. Bring dish to feed 5 or more. 1pm. 2nd fl., Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison. 675-0201.

Moving Pictures:

screenings Fri. & Sun. at 1 & 3pm thru 12/15. Museum admission \$7. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Open Channeling

Spirit guide Tonga channeled thru oracle David Chrystallah, free. 4pm. Sacred Space, 776 Haight. 431-0878.

Prickly Pears

Brava! for Women in the Arts presents Sharon R. Beatty's play. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 3pm thru 12/1. \$14-16. Brava Theater, 2789 24th St. 647-BTCC.

Sins and Seduction

Sins and Seduction Signs for the Future and Latin American Theatre Artists present Tim Roche's adult comedy, fundraiser for Shanti. Sundays at 7pm thru 12/8. Pay what you can. Kimo's, 1351 Polk. 885.2538 Kimo's, 13 885-4535.

Steve Dell

Photographs of male nudes, thru Nov. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Vincent Fronczek

Exhibit of erotic photography, thru 1/4. Stormy Leather, 1158 Howard. 626-1672.

Virgil Thomson

100th Birthday Concert, fea-tures SF Choral Artists. \$9. 4pm. Old First Church, Van at Sacramento 474-1608

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Appropriated Emotion

Art by Diane Fenster and Miles Stryker. Mon.-Sat. thru 12/31. Gallery 16, 1616 16th St. 626-7495.

Gay Book Clubs

Gay Men's Book Club discusses James Merrill's "A Different Person," Lesbian Book Club discusses Lisa Alther's "5 Minutes in Heaven," Iree. 7pm. Clean, Well-Lit. Place, 2417 Larkspur Landing Cir-cle, Larkspur. 461-0171.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

Aspiring queer comics sign up by phone, MC Maureen Brownsey. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

GMUG

Gay Macintosh User Group meets 4th Mon. of each month. 7pm. New Conserva-tory Theater, 25 Van Ness. 552-GMUG.

J.B. Higgins



Confess, a juried art exhibition at Southern Exposure gallery, opens Friday night. See listing





Heklina and Pippi Lovestocking host the Miss Trannyshack Pageant, Saturday at the Stud. See listing.

thru Nov. Castro Station, 456 Castro.

The Source

Short works from the Les/Gay Film Fest: docudrama on surfer chicks; gay teens; black power; bondage, and more. \$6. 7 & 9:15pm. Roxie Cine-ma, 3117 16th St. 863-1087.

A Thanksgiving Visitor Robert Coffman reads Tru-man Capote's classic story, reception follows. \$8. 7pm. Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. 861-5079



Commonplace Mysteries

"Photographs by Peter Hujar, Andrea Modica, and Bill Owens" exhibit. Thru 2/2. SF-MOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Don Bachardy

Portraits in oil, watercolor and acrylics. Tues.-Sat. thru 12/15. Mulligan-Shanoski, 747 Post. 771-0663.

Hall of Fame

Grand opening: exhibition of art and artifacts from over 50 halls of fame (thru 2/23). \$10, free with costume. 6:30pm. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Josie's Pussycat

Theatre
Artist's Television Access presents queer cinema. \$7. 8pm.
Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th
St. 861-7933.

Living with AIDS

Drawings and etchings of PWAs by Frances Binnington. Tues.-Sat. thru 11/30. Pro-ject Open Hand, 1166 Howard. 252-1931

DTV

Gay and lesbian program ming: highlights from Halloween 96. Tues. at 7pm. Cable Channel 47. 956-1284.

Silent Art Auction

"For AIDS Advocacy" Works by over 60 artists, benefits ACT UP/East Bay. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/1. Berkeley Store Gallery, 2295 Shattuck, Berkeley. (510) 568-1680.

Splendors of

Imperial China Survey of treasures from the National Palace Museum, Taipei. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/8. \$9.50. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 379-8801.

Women with Balls

The only women-ruled stand-up comedy room in SF. Tues, at 8pm. \$5. Cat's Grill, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.



Banjy Pussy Raging

Idris Mignott in a multi-char-acter tour-de-force, opens tonight. \$12. 8pm. Josie's tonight. \$12. 8pm. Josi Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Beach Blanket Babylon

Musical revue's holiday ex travaganza shows, call for seasonal schedule. \$18-45. Club Fugazi, 678 Gree 421-4222.

Beat Culture

1950-1965," exhibition of painting, sculpture, film, in-stallations, music and spoken word. Thru 12/29. de Young Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

How to Succeed..

"In Business Without Really Trying," Broadway musical starring Ralph Macchio. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/8, call for times. \$34-62.50. Tonight at 8pm. Golden Gate Theater, 1 Taylor. 776-1999.

Party

Ensemble designed by Indo Choraria of Obiko, part of the San Francisco Craft and Folk Art Museum Fashion Sale, Saturday at Fort Mason See listing.

Party
David Dillon's comedy: seven
gay friends play "Facts and
Fantasies." Wed.-Sun. extended thru 1/5, call for
times. \$20-25. Tonight at
8pm. Cable Car Theatre, 430
Mason. 956-8497.

Picasso at the

Lapin Agile Steve Martin's comedy fea-turing the NY cast. Tues.-Sun., extended thru 2/16. Tonight at 8pm, call for

times, \$25-38. Theatre on the Square, 450 Post. 433-9500

Bottoms Up!

Live gay dating game, Thurs, thru Nov. \$2. 11&11:30pm. Stud, 9th & Harrison.

Katharina Fritsch

Survey of works by German sculptor. Thru 3/9. SFM0-MA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

MetaPorn

Tom Bacchus' visual orgy of Photoshop erotica and appropriated imagery, on exhibit thru 12/2. Lone Star Saloon, 1354 Harrison. 863-9999.

Service of Thanksgiving

Service at 11am, potluck community supper at noon. Metropolitan Community Church of SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

Trick

Genderfuck cabaret, every Thurs. 9pm-2am. \$5. CoCo Club, 139 8th St. 331-9595 x300.

Two Beats

Exhibition of photographs by Allen Ginsberg, paintings and drawings by Robert LaVigne. Tues.-Sat. thru 11/30. Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary. 421-0122.

Vanities

All-new gay version of Jack Heifner's comedy: lives of three Texan football players. three Texan football players. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/21, call for times. \$16-20. Tonight at 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Roberto Friedman Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.

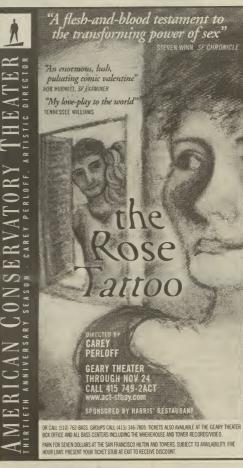


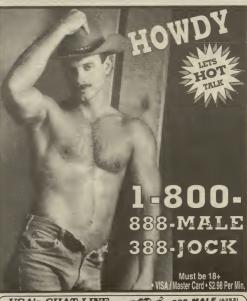
Roast Turkey dinner with apple-raisin cornbread stuffing, carmelized yams, fresh vegetable, mashed potatoes

and creamy horseradish

Fried Calamari with cocktail sauce & cajun tarter sauce...

Patio Safe
531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th
Breakfast/Lunch served from 8:00 AM
Dinner from 5:00 PM nightly

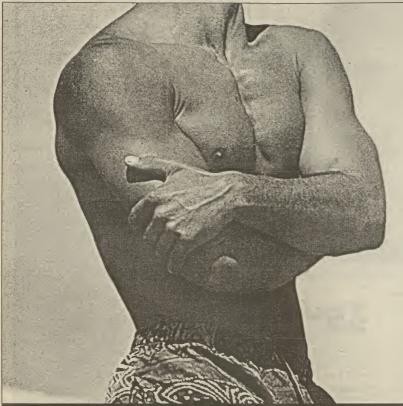




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PARTING GLANCES

Jim From Oiamond Heights
Met you & your friend Marianne at
the Cafe on Oct 19. I can't remember
your last name, but would like to reconnect. Please leave msg. Roger.
3501.

Vertigo 10/24 7 PM Show You: crew cut/goatee. Me: beard/black shirt/bear cap. 'We smiled at each other several times in line & then exchanged nods after show. Let's meet. Call me. 129 3502.

24 Muni: Fri 10/25 3:45
Me: blue eyes, mustache, jacket, cap, backpack. You: goatee, dark eyes, standing near rear exit. After long stares & half-smiles, I got off at 22nd. Care to meet ? Gary.

2504.

Bed And Bath
You: blond man w/goatee, black
leather jacket, blue eyes, made me
melt. Would like to meet you ASAP?
Me: man w/reunion hat goatee w/desires of you. @ 3505.

Buena Vista Sat 10/26 5PM
You: brown hair, blue sweat pants,
white T-shirt, gold chain. We played
in the park. Would like to see you
again. Please call. 22 3605.

Badlands-Sat. Nite 10/26 You: tall, mustache, originally from Pakistan, most recently from Connecticut. Me: short, buzz hair, mustache. You smiled—we talked. Please call me. @ 3507.

Hot N Hunky Nov 1 7:30 PM
You: blue stripped dress shirt, dark
hair. Me: blue shirt, blue eyes, I was
alone w/burger you w/friend & to go
bag. Hope to meet you.

3603.

Jim of Guerneville
Met you at Windmills Fri 11/1 at
dusk. Seems we both had a good
time. I'm freer than I indicated.
Please call. Let's talk. @ 3606.

Vertigo Sun 10/27 1PM Show You: glasses, polo shirt & khakis. Me: Latino, gray sweatshirt & shorts. Wanted to stay & introduce myself, but had to leave. Maybe we can meet again? \$2 3508.

Oct 26 Image Lthr/Bus Stop Watched each other. You crossed Market to Image Leather w/two boys. You: tall, mustache, blue T-shirt. Me: tall, glasses, short beard hair, jeans, nylon bomber jacket, at bus stop.

\$\omega\$

Blue Ski Jacket Castro Sat 11/12
Blond guy w/friend. Paths kept crossing. Tried to talk to you in Headlines.
You seemed shy. Me: blond, shorts, maroon jacket. Let's get together for a beer? 28 3601.

Sunday 11/13 N Judah
You in United blue jump suit. Me in red plaid jacket. We kept looking but I had to get off at Noe. Wish I had said hello. Would like to meet.
3602.

Jeff at Laundromat on 18th St.
You were doing your laundry Tues
10/29. You came & went a couple of
times. Me: blue coat, green cap.
Asked if you needed help. Like to
meet you. Call. ☎ 3604.

Montgomery Station Fri 11/1 4 PM, racing down the stairs, you were racing up. Mom's right, we shouldn't rush! You: light brown hair, blue shirt. Me: dark hair, glasses, goatee. Why not meet? 2 3607.

John @ Eagle 10/27
You were in my fantasies, hope I was in yours? Want to be active participant next time, can I get you naked? Loved your hair cut & more. Scott. 29 3608.

Cash Only Line Wed 11/6 4:30
Safeway (where else?) on Market.
You: blue shirt, gray/silver tie, great smile. Me: glasses, goatee, great smile, too!

3701.

1166 Howard 11/8 at 11:50
You were picking up groceries; shopping area was empty except you and me. You: 5'9" or so, light hair, cap, shirt sleeves rolled up. You turned and smiled. Should have spoken. Me: Hounds tooth over shirt, mustache, brown hair. Care to meet? @3 3702.

Fri Nov 1, 18th St.
You were walking up the hill from
Market in black shorts. I was walkin
down the hill; tall, dark sweatshirt.
We both turned around and looked.
Would like to meet. \$\omega\$ 3703.

#71 Jersey at Pete's Sun Nov 10
Are you single? You're awfully cute!
Would have come over and said hi at
Pete's, but couldn't. Pls call; I'd like
a date!! (Hot Daddy w/blue eyes)
3704.

Yellow Cab 11/2 Van Ness/Calif. to 16th/Sanchez. Should've, Would've, Could've. Call me. ☎ 3705.

Sleepless in San Mateo
You are on my mind day & night.
Want to look into those big blue eyes
& feel what we know is real. Just like
that sweetest day of May...Pls call.

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Clean Sober Still Wild & Fun GLM, 32, 5'10', 160#, HIV+, handsome, sexy, hung, tattooed, pierced, stretched lobes. Vers'active FF, toys, bondage & more. Seeking LTR w/like minded individual or duo into exploration, intimacy +. NS/ND, no exceptions. Extra points for redheads, recovery, creativity.

3509.

East Bay/North Bay Boyfriend Hot, GWM, 43, 6′, 170#, gdlkng, inshape, top, prof. Enjoys travel, romantic sunsets, workouts together, toys, movies, tender cuddling ISO LTR w/in-shape bottom, 345-45. Asians A+, HIV+ OK.

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HIV+ Latinish Top Wanted
I like'm short, dark & thick. WM,
HIV+, 34, blue, brown, 6', 180#, in
Pittsburgh needs boyfriend. LTR
w/Capricorn or Virgo. @ 3511.

South Bay Cub GWM, 38, brn/grn, 195#, attractive, dangerously intelligent, seeks LTR for hugs, joy, & all life can give. You: sharp, masculine, Intelligent, Ioving, kind, attractive, 30's. Love of mod rock A+.

3518. Handsome Muscular Italian G38, 6'2", 185#, into fitness, travel, romance & quiet times, seeks another HIV-, extremely well hung man for monogamous relationship.

■ 3512.

Is it Still Good To You?
Prof. GBM to 40's needs GWM bottom, 50 or above w/hot ass & tits for sex, fun times & poss LTR. Lt drink, A+. 🕿 3513.

"B" Boy?
I been looking for that ass since a 1/4
past...Me: 22, blk. fun. You sincere,
masculine, lovable. 23515.

A Lot of Sexual Energy Very attractive Spanish/Italian, 42. 577′, 140#, Brn/Rom, mustache, well proportioned w/nice butt, affectionate, sincere, fun & attracted to long legs. If you're 28-45, 5′10″ or taller, call.

3516.

Need Help With English?
Slender, mature, experienced & patient teacher will help younger student needing English tutoring, speaking or writing-in exchange for friends ship, maybe more. Other interests: massage, motorcycles, classical music, ballet, etc. 28 3517.

Do Opposites Attract? HM, 26, HIV+, versatile bottom, 5'5", 170#, seeks W/HM, 26-36, versatile top for LTR. Me: tattoos & piercings. You: sincere, hung, fun & freaky.

3519.

Seeking My Hair Covered Dream Gdlking, GWM, 38, 5'8", 155#, blnd/bll, smooth, must. Long to worship the hairlest guy ever! Very oral, light BD. "Lumber jacks," not "Big Bears" please. HIV+, healthy. 22 3520.

HIV, Down to Earth, Healthy,
Non pretentious guy, Not Into casual
sex, mind games or tricks. Many interests, work at maintaining a physically body. Mer 510", 180#, proportlon, GBM. You: Similar, physical
condition. Interested: leave number &
name. Call will be returned. 120 3521.

Need a New Boyfriend WM, 52 (looks 30's) 5'11", 155#, clean shaven, NS, ND, HIV-, looking for AM 25-35, short, slim, for LTR. Like 60's-80's music, theater, dining, travel, scuba, photography, movies, dancing, cats. **29** 3522.

Rice 4 Rice GAM, 33, 5'10", 160#, looking for a sincere, relationship-oriented GAM. Enjoy reading, traveling, classical music, intelligent conversation & quiet time at home or on the beach. 3523.

Young Cute Buns Seeks Older Life before 52 is just a rehearsal says ex-intl. television model, 27, new in US, 61st, 151st, w/satin smooth tan skin & cute bubble buns, seeks sexy, classy, mature, gentleman, 52-67.

3609.

Need a Lasting Companion
"55" and most sincere HGM ISO a
WGM, 25-35, for lasting commitment In a sexual and economic relationship, prefer moderately hung top.

2 3610.

Cute and Handsome GWM, 37, 5'4", 130#, br/bl, HIV-, professionally employed. Passionate w/a great sense of humor. Looking fo GWM, 35-50, HIV- for dating, living loving, & eventual commitment.

\$\mathbb{Q}\$
\$\text{3611}.

Seeking Asian Companionship GWM seeks slim, smooth, clean shaven Asian. I'm nice-looking, 39, 6', 175#, brown hair/hazel eyes, kind, caring, loving, sincere, honest, patient. @ 3612.

Attractive Asian
Looking for friendship. I'm 31 yr old,
150#, 5'6", HIV-, sexy, hot &
gdlkng guy. Don't waste your time,
call now, and I'll be waiting for you.
22 3613.

Muscular GAM Wants GWM Lover 29, 5'6", 140#, 28"W, handsome, intelligent, kind, hot body, bubble but bottom, in San Rafael, seek 25-35, slim, masculine, top, hung +, HIV-, to love & share meaningful life together. № 3614.

Masculine Hairy Young
Masculine, hairy guy, very laid back,
5'11'', 180#, blond intelligent enjoy
quite times together. Walks SM, BD,
3-ways or more, cuddling. ISO 30's40's Top man, 5'11'', in shape Bear
w/similar interests. 22 3615.

Ooh Darlin', Explain Your Life Tall (6/2"), dark, handsome, lean, clean-shaven, masculine, HIV-, extraordinarily private 42 yo GWM seeks secure, sensitive, unabashedly romantic, disarmingly handsome GWM. SF only (Physicians &or Attorneys need not respond.) 92 3616.

Are You HIV, Middle Age In good health and maybe because of diet & exercise you don't physically look you age. You are pass keeping up w/the gang, one night stands, relationship w/no future.. 22 3617.

Trim Masc, Italian Man Well endowed, ave to nice Ikng & warm & sensitive seeks same for fun & poss. LTR. Tony. 12 3618.

Buffed GBM 4 Hunky GWM
Muscled, masculine, attractive & intelligent, intensely spirited African-American professional seeks high-quality, mainstream, socially confident, muscular & mature, witty Euro-American professional...for fun laughs, friendship...maybe more! \$\overline{1}{2}\$

New Boy in Town
Handsome GWM, 40, tall, muscular
build, wide mind, deep heart, warm
humor, seeks fit, thoughtful Black
Latino male for friendship & passionate adventures.

3620.

GWM Seeks Similar GWM 30-45 For fun. Average looking nice guy seeks same.

3621.

Platonic Gdlkng Slim Retired Guy. Mustache, crewcut, hip, 5'9", 150#, HIV-, seeks similar guy. Nonsexual. Interests: music, opera, politics, science, etc. smoke, bars OK. Restaurants No! SF. @ 3622.

Honor My Romantic Side GWM, 36, 6'1", 180#, HIV+, healthy, wants an honest & sincere romantic adventure. Seeking LTR w/one whose in need of TLC. No substance abuse. @ 3623.

Absolute Monogamy
40 GWM, cln shv, 6', 8", HIV-, seeks
masc. top "Dad," muscular, mustache, hairy, only HIV-. I am loving,
friendly, sensitive. Do not want
plague. \$\mathbf{2}\$ 3707.

Sincere Asian GAM, 42, 5'5", smooth, bottom. Enjoy cuddling, kissing, sex, outdoors, food, coffee, travel. Smoker. You: tall, weight proportionate, under 47 for friendship first, maybe relationship later. \$\mathbb{R}\$ 3708.

Body Positive
We are a social group for healthy
minded, HIV+ men. We have a
monthly potluck social, as well as
special weekend activities. This is a
great way to meet new friends.

3709.

Rugged Good Looks? Me Too
Too shy to start? Well, GWM, 42,
62", 210#, bearded, very oral seeks
someone like me. Homebody, but
likes weekends. Intelligent, employed,
HIV-, NS, humorous, Picket Fences
fan. \$\mathbb{x}\$ 3710.

Men Who Wear Plaids Are Considered lovable, thoughtful, earthy, 36 yo Filipino, whots of loving to give, HIV, drug & alcohol free, seeking GWM, 35-45, min! bear or under 200 4 for life's enjoyment & happiness. @ 3711.

Muscle Boy Seeks Same
Searching for a cute muscular young
Asian boy? I'm 5'10", 170 #, 30"
waist. Interests include gym, eat-out,
antiques, traveling. I'm smart, romantic, mature, funny, financially secure. Seeks same.

3712.

Change of Season/Weather
Best time to keep warm w/somebody,
GAM 26, fit, intelligent, gdlkng, independent, dry sense of humor seeking GWM mid 20's-30's, smart,
funny, active, romantic, professional.

3713.

WM Seeks BM GWM, early 50's, 6', 200#, br/brn, mustache, hairy chest, HIV-, seeking younger GBM, slender or muscular, who likes to suck & cuddle. East Bay OK. ☎ 3714.

Hairy HIV+ Dad 41, 6'2", 185#, drk hair, hazel, ruggedly handsome, eclectic youthful, into music, books, art, outdoors, sensuous seeking a gdlkng man-boy, inshape/serious dating.

3715.

Athletic Asian 49, 5'9", 150#, seeks smooth, clean shaven, gym-toned WM into hiking, work-outs, sports, dancing, arts, & travel for urban & wilderness adventures. 22 3716.

Go For It
25 year old, Eurasian, professional,
strikingly handsome, lean (\$10",
145#) seeks an equally attractive
GWM (European a plus), 22-28, who is
fun, outgoing, & masculine. \$23717.

Bear Cat GWM 185# Brn/Brn Average build have mustache & beard. Seeking similar male who finds the foregoing attractive. I have a magical world view & prefer those who understand this. I like hairy guys. Be very smart. 2

GBM/6'2"/185#/Very Attractive 40 yrs old seeks GBM same age or older for fun time, a caring, lovable guy, Friend Poss. lover-serious only. 22 3719.

LESBIAN

Friend or Girlfriend
I'm mid-30's, 5'5", attractive, feminine, honest, professional, foreigner,
living in SF. I'd like to meet a lot of
lesbians for friendship or dating. NS.
ND. Race, age, butch/femme, don't
matter. 12 3753.

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Oral Party Pig
Masculine, handsome, smooth, 30 yr
GBM, seeks to party w/ (1-1) & service
super hung long & thick GWM, masculine, Dad/Jock types. Kickback for serious service all weekend.

3524.

Seeking Asian Third GWC, 40's, HIV-, seeking attractive Asian for hot, passionate times. Have you tried two hot bods on yours? Maybe it's time! 23 3525.

Let's Wrestle Muscular, handsome GWM seeks others turned on by wrestling. Open to all skill levels & fantasies. No heavy rough housing. Just good, clean, sweaty fun. Go ahead & call—you won't be disappointed.

2326.

Please Hood Me Sir—Thank You Hndsm, bl/bl, 5'10', 150*, 37, SJ or SF, for SM, BD, WS, gags & leather. Any race, dominant w/equip. HIV+ tolerant. I'm inexperienced but eager. 29:3527.

Horny Bottom Likes to be Fucked By GBM w/a 9" dick or more. Latino w/a hot hairy, tight ass. Butt pluggers welcome.

3528.

College Guy Bi/curious, clean-cut, healthy, handsome, buffed UC grad student gives oral satisfaction to big Berkeley weenies. Discreet. No reciprocation. Anytime. Leave message. 28 3529.

Expert Cocksucker Senior GWM, 57", 130#, begs to worship masc, verbal topman, over 40, wgt. proportion. Cauc or Asian. 3552.

Foreskin Servicing Required HIV-, WM w/ample overhang, 5'11", 4'0ish, 160 M; b/for/smoth, 7' uncut wants to kick back & have his foreskin regularly serviced, chewed, stretched, docked, slow Fr til I cum, you: 18-50, HIV-, Attr w/insatiable foreskin appetite.

3530.

Horny Show-Off Suck-Off Orgies Enormous, young boner seeks studs who love to show off noisily sucking/sharing cock for creamy group suck parties. I wanna watch myself get sucked by two guys at once! 28 3531.

Bam, Grunt, Groan, Sweat, Cum GWM, HIV-, hairy, mustache; seeks animal intense wrestling, boxing, brawling good time. Be in my age, weight class, 35-55, 150-200. Bay area or Sacramento. 2 3532.

I Wanna Suck Your Looking for well built studs who want their masculine clean butts eaten to perfection by Italian stud, 43, 6′, 190#, rugged build, facial hair. Call me pal. № 3533..

Just How Good Are You?
Horny WM, 37 yo, seeking blow job
of a lifetime! I carry a tasty piece of
meat. Need one badly, will travel.
Young WM A++.
3534...

GWM 38 Very Good Lkng Musc Seeks fuck buddy near Santa Rosa for fucking & ass eating, HIV- only. I love to eat a man's hole. 22 3535...

Boxing/Hot Oral Sex Wanted Masochistic GWM boxing novice seeks to be over powered in boxing match prior to oral sex. Nasty young guys & short men A+! No fems, hustlers. 23 3536..

I Like Big Guys
Handsome oral 6'1", 180#, likes big
muscular guys w/big tits, thighs, ass,
dicks. Safe, HIV- only. Let me eat &
work your tits while you ride my ass.

■ 3537...

Thin Muscle Boys Wanted
I'm intensely attracted to thin, de-fined, muscle boys, particularly if they like getting fucked by a domi-nant, muscular guy w/an 8 inch dick. 3338.

I'm Sexy Asian In Town 32 year old, 5'11", 155#, looking for gay white man. 2 3539.

Seeking That Ultimate B-Boy Young prof. GBM, attract., well-built seeks under 25, hung 9" +, masculine B-boy to tame & top me. African American/Latino only. 2 3540.

Wanted Asian Dark Skinned Latin 18-30's who are in shape, bottoms into getting there mouths, tits ass used by VRHDS 45 yrs. Sicilian BB, call if you need your Dad. 22 3541.

Queer Butt Boy/Boy Toy
Boy toy is 27 yrs, 6′, 155#, 7 1/2″
cut. Seeking queer boy/man tops 2035 yrs, htwh prop. w/big dicks to
shove in my mouth & up my butt.
Vanilla to queer kick, toys, porn.

3542.

Lay Back Relax, Then Ride Me Seek African/Asian/Latin topmen. You'd love a deep massage, then you'd mount me & ride us both to mind-blowing high. I'm GWM, 5'8 230#, 50. UB: yourself.

3543.

Nothing Too Complicated
Tired of scenes, fetishes & body
parts? Stop here. Sexy GWM, seeks

Powerful WM Need Discipline
I like to use & abuse, successful white
men. Any age or profession. I'm looking for a regular, ongoing, get togeth
er. I'm sincere, you should be too.
3545.

Hot Italian Needs to Have Fun With sexy, hot, in shape, other's i of oral fun. I like tops n versatile. hung 8 1/2" what about you? 23546.

Plumbing Backed Up?
Have your tube sucked by a big guy, 290 lb.., brown hair, blue eyes.
Watch porno while having tube serviced. Looking for repeats. No recip. nec. \$\mathbb{2}\$ 3547.

A1 Oral Service Delivered SF, GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete oral service to guys who dig getting sucked off, Prefer trim, mature, no reciprocation.

3548.

Hung Big Hot 6', 35, 150#, gdlkng, All-American collegiate-type w/gym toned body, hung big seeks gdlkng guys hung as big (or bigger?) Couples A+. 2349.

Hot & Frustrated in Fremont Sexy, healthy, & horny 27 yr old male ISO men to play w/experienced top & a hungry urigin bottom. Age & race doesn't matter. Mutual satisfac-tion does.

3550.

Men's Sensual Group to Start Safe, nurturing, erotic men's group to meet for playful man to man sensual times. You have integrity & mutual respect & come enjoy male eroticism in a group setting. 2351.

Foreskin Muncher WM, 40, 6'5", 220#, crazy about your hooded prize. Have your overhand chewed, nibbled, sucked & tugged for your pleasure & mine. be fit, hung, under 40. Hispanic A+. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 3553.

Ass Massage-Erotic Spanking Top will make your butt feel wonder-ful. Me: attrac, GWM, 46, 6′5″, 250#, husky build. Your: attrac, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth-moderate body hair & nice buns. Give yourself a break today.

3554.

Let's Eat & Fuck Versatile, 5'11", well built, hung big, need Cau men, 20-30's, well built w/big hairy bubble butt to eat & fuck. 22 3555.

XXX Polaroids
Handsome 41 yr old, WM will take
erotic pics of healthy cute boyish exhibitionists who like to get nasty for
instant photos. 22 3556.

GBM HIV+ ISO Jap or GWM Tops Healthy, HIV+, GBM, 180#, 5'11",

Italian Dad Seeks Son
To have & to take care of, Be sweet &
cute, prep. 18-30 to 40 OK. Tony.
3625.

Nasty Boys Only
For long fuck sessions. UB:
GWM/GLM, 25-35 yo, clean shaven,
good shape, w/hot hole, ready & willing. Me: GWM top, good shape,
5'6", 140#, brn/brn, 40 yo.
3626.

Top Seeks Top Good-lookin', in shape, very sexy, hairy body & equipment, 5°10", 170#, young 50's. Approaching tem-porary dominant burn out. Need chal-lenge seek similar, hairy preferred. Let's chew some tit. See who gets hot.

3627.

Seeking Hairy Hung Guy 5'9", 185#, beefy, muscular, br/gr, hung, U/C, smooth, HIV-, 31 yo, seeks hairy, hung, guy for regular ses-sions, age, race, shape unimportant. Just be hairy, hung, HIV-. \$\mathfrak{2}\$ 3628.

BSM Into Butch Bottom & More! Lookin' for nice Mexican or Latin brother to kick it with. No femme please. Friendship &/or more. 23 3630.

Double Treat!
Equipped w/succulent thick meat & tasty butthole? Qualifiers sought by aggressively oral mature GAM for fun times. No drugs; 3-way 0K. HIV-a must. 22 3631.

Are You Dom Hot Horny & Hung 2 Masculine, gdikng bottom men, 5'11", 175#, each will submit to you & others. Anywhere, time or place you want it. Parking lots, doorways? Get kinky. 12 3632.

Safe Sex Buddies/Massage Mates
Deaf GWM, 44 years young, 6',
145#, brown/blue, goatee seeking
GBM, GLM & GAM, 21-50, gymtoned, slim-built to average for hot
times & adventures.

3633.

Enter and Be Safe
You're a well-built, 20's-40's, NS,
G/BiWM, any height. Whether shy or
brash, you'd like to sexually dominate
& gently condom-top an attractive,
unaffected 38 yo, 6'3", 175#, shorthaired, clean-shaven & highly responsive bottom.

32 3634.

Fat, Black, 50 year old East Bay Man-rod needs a 10-minute deep throat expert to relieve me at 6 AM or 11 PM daily. Sincere, serious, mobile experts only please. Outdoor test first. Thanks. 22 3635.

Raunch & Sleaze...
In Tijuana, leaving in mid January for a week of safe, wild times in bath houses & porn theaters. Looking for other masculine men to share the adventure. (No drugs) 22 3636.

In My Face Sort of Guy
Wants your heavy load in mine. Great
oral service for masculine blacks,
Asians, & super hairy men. Your
place, HIV-, GWM 41, fit, hungry.
Gives no hassle head. 22 3637.

Uncircumcised Male Wanted WM ISO uncut man for oral encounters. UB: fit, masculine, muscular Daddies, blue collars, esp Hispanics. 23 3638.

Macho Bossman
Tall, tough, bearded, hairy, well-built,
WM, 42, seks masculine, built, punk
boy, any age or race to dominate, humiliate, violate. Into verbal abuse,
bondage, spit, rimming, bloydos. No
smokers/druggies.

3639.

Love Tit Work & Massage?
So do I. Masc., GVM, 53, 6'2",
280#, HIV-, gray/blue. Smoker, drug
free, light drinker, not into bars. ISO
similar, 40's-60's, htwn prop to
stolar, 40's-60's, htwn prop to
stolar, for fuck buddles. LTR possible.
A trimmed beard, uncut dick & big
balls are all pluses. 122 3640.

Bare Butt Spankings Administered to deserving boys. Will use hard, paddle & strap to teach a lesson you won't forget. Young inex perienced OK. This coach is 37, tall, muscular, healthy. LTR? 22 3641.

Missed My Messages
If you answered ad #3225, smooth
hungry black but, 42, HIV+, slender, super tight but & didn'r get a
response, please try again. Some
message got erased before I got the
info down. Esp those on Sun Nov 3rd.

22 3642.

Muscle Love
Does silky olive skin on sculpted muscles make your cock rise in pulsating
salute, cum boiling in your balls?
Handsome, Hawaiian, bodybuilder,
35, wants other uninhibited musclemen. 22 3643.

Horny Butthole ISO cocks, cum f ISO cocks, cum, fists. Bareback only. Me: 44, tall, trim, Poz. You: horny, hung. 23444.

Must Be Someone Like Myself Who likes hot four play hot sex. Lick-ing, feeling, J0, 69, etc. If your hot, slim, HIV-, to 55 male or couples. I am HIV-, 55, & ready. Safe sex. 2 3720.

Collared & Submissive GWM 37, attractive, 5'10", seeks verbal, dominant attractive GM, NS, smoot 33-43, for oral service, leashed sub-mission, possible whipping, SF. Thank you sir. @ 3721.

Deep Velvet Throat In Berkeley Very handsome, slender, masculine, blue-eyed, mid 30's, yuppie will suck off, in-shape, white & Latin studs under 40. Straight or bi? Will eat your girlfriend's pussy, too. № 3722.

Party Favor Spice up that boring Birthday dinner I'll service the guest of honor or the entire party. I aim to please.

3723.

Seeking Asian Top GWM seeks healthy, dependable Asian stud who spanks & is condom crazy. A caring person, but perpetual ly & eternally horny. Humorous, too. 22 3724.

Hot Bottom Needs Man-Hole Fuck Nasty guy seeks hot tops & their buddies for uninhibited raw fuck trips. Gang-bangs, rape scenes fill my hole up. Wild hard-core fantasy trips. Give me your stiff rods! 22 3725.

Come Over & Fuck Me Bld/Blu, WM, 30, 5'10", 195#, Bodybuilder, 48" ch, 31" W, 18" arms wants gdlkng, masculine men to pound me, anytime.

3726.

Cum on, Ride The (B&W) Train 2 hot guys (blonde muscle boy and gangsta rapper look-a-like) seek lassed third (Latino, Asian or other brother preferred) as either bottom boy or middleman for East Bay, Three-way action. 22 3727.

Seeking Ongoing Fuck Buddy
Slender, in shape, early 50's, GWM
bottom seeks topman for regular
meetings. I'm masculine but smooth,
submissive, responsive, & eager to
please. You are HIV-, play safe, any
race. \$\mathbf{2}\$ 3728.

Naked At The Door Have you ever answered your door stark naked? Door to door sex survey guy wants to interview a macculine guy w/a lean build. /m a trim masculine WM, 40. 2 3730.

Christophe

You answered my ad but left a phone number that didn't work. Please call again, for some fun & adventure. \$\mathbb{2}\$ 3731.

Hungry Sonoma Co. Butch Bttm Opens his throat & hairy hole for butch , well hung tops only. Be in-shape. I'm 6'1", 190#, br/br, moust., goatee, HIV+, 30's, Italian & mascu-line. Beard, Hairy A+.

3732. Handsome Hairy Italian Bottom, ISO smooth dark skinr Asian or Latino in Excelsior di for sex & friendship. 22 3733.

Seeking Dominant Top Asian You: sexy, horny Asian who wants oral service and/or loves to fuck. Me: 35 yo, GWM, 5'10", gr/br, 160#, athletic, totally submissive. 22 3734.

Young GBM. 24 Attractive & imaginative wants GWM, over 30, as a sexual partner ownoderful sensual pleasures. I'm versatile & compatible man in Oakland. 22 3735.

Need To Get Off?
Looking for regular buddies to suck off & eat butt on a regular basis. Nhassles. Just get off & come back when you're ready. \$\sigma 3736\$.

East Bay Dad Looking For Boy Into BD/submission/training. 18-35, some experience but eagerness to learn/please A+. Me. 405, in shape, experienced, sadistic but sane, limits respected expanded over time.

3737.

Service My Foreskin & Dock Cock HIV- WM, 5'11", 160#, br/br, smooth, 7" uncut Wample overhang needs slow, long, intensive servicing, chewing & stretching. Then fuck my foreskin (Docking) & shoot your cum niside my manskin, You: Attr., HIV-, 18-50, & foreskin hungry. 22' 3738.

need sex tool: ITM 56, 52 , 120#, 7", hot tight ass. Need to be sucked, fucked, & FF. Work my balls hard & slow. I also fow to suck a big cock all the way down. Eager to please. Race unimportant.

2 3739.

GWM 54yrs 110# Blue eyes, 5'2", mustache. HIV-, North Bay. Have a little furry ass & I love to suck big cock over 7". Then you fuck my ass good. Days & wkends better. Age, race, unimportant.

23 3740.

FETISHES

Young Raunch Stud
Needed young sexy stud who wants t get serviced & be willing to get real raunchy, WS & more, now is your chance! 2 3557.

Crutches Wheelchair GWM, 49, ISO gay men under 40 w/crutch or wheelchair fetishes. Let's share fantasies & play games! 22 3560.

Daytime Asshole Eater Get your asshole eaten by a pro.

■ 3561.

Hairy Chest to Hairy Chest Hairy, stocky GWM, 5'8'', 160#, 160 more, hairy buddies into hard pec work (claw holds, punches, slaps, hair-tugging), bear hugs, 69, J0. Real plus for hairy men of color, redheads. Let's bang chest! \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 3562.

Sonoma Slave from Hell!
GWM needs experienced Lthr Master
under 40 for safe winter games.
Russian River area. 2 3563.

Bondage for Asians
WM, late 40's, will strip, tie you up,
play w/your cock, balls, tits & make
you cum. Explore your fantasy. Muscular A+.

22 3564.

Black Master Needs White Slaves I'm friendly, spiritual & domineering-gently, I want white men, any age to be my slaves. For pissing, spanking, & verbal cruelty. Sincere only. S 3565.

Erotic Tickling
Attractive, friendly GWM, early 40's,
excellent shape, seeks similar (20's40's) for hot tickling sessions. Must
be ticklish, especially on feet. Will
reciprocate wirght person. Relationship possible, optional.

3645.

Big Balls Fat Dick Verbal Dom I squat fully clothed in front of you (verbal top), wrap lips around dick-head, watch huge balls swing while I jerk you off. Be HIV-so I can swallov payload. \$\mathbb{\omega}\$ 3646.

Feet and More
Latino guy, 30, 5'11", very attractive. Would like to meet Latins or Whites, 21-30, NS, ND, into foot fetish. Serious only. No lies. @ 3647.

Woodshed Discipline
Gdlkng WM, 47, 5°10°, 155#, strict
but caring, seeks cute, in-shape,
clean-shaven WM under 30 needing
thrashing, humiliation w/other bad
boy, Also seeking co-disciplinarian
WM, 30-50, handsome, sane, scene
oriented. № 3648.

Manhole Wanted
Does yours protrude, w/lots of lip on it. You: in shape, 21-45. Let my hot tongue work it good. I'm hot, handsome, 40, 5'11", 160#.

■ 3649.

Oral Slave
Wants two or more masculine men to use me. Suck dick, lick balls, rim,
WS, SM any or all of the above,
GWM, 35, 5'11", 160#, blo,
blu/grn.

3650.

Ouch! Spank me, tie me up. Jack me off slowly while looking into my eyes.

Sexy boy, 30, 5'8", 130#, seeks take charge man. 22 3651.

I am Back WM w/big clean feet, cut, come on get naked. Relax & let a 50's hot tounge & mouth make you feel good. → 3652.

Gummer Wanted
You take out your dentures & go
down on me. Me: mature, clean,
GWM, HIV-. You: clean, any age,
race, HIV-. No \$. \$2 3653.

Straight WM Needs Humiliation Let this mature masculine male watch you jack off. Slap my face w/your hard cock coming on my face vrubbing it w/you semi hard cock. 23654.

Kinky Buffed Blond
Very attractive, gym toned, 32, bottom (but versatile) seeks attractive, in-shape GAM for kinky, sleazy fun:
FF & toys, piss, raunch, light SM & BD, verbal abuse & ? 2 3655.

Man W/Toe Ring Loves Barefeet Lifelong excitement looking at & fan-tasizing about men's barefeet. Gdlkng, East Bay GWM, 5'9", trim, tan, HIV-, loves reciprocal kissing, licking, massaging barefeet & sensu-al/safe all over body play. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 3741. I Want To Serve You Gdikng male, 31, smooth athletic body, round ass seeks attractive, dominant, verbal, non-hairy, sexually demanding, in-shape guy under 40, who knows what he wants. Novice but willing to please/explore.

3742.

Bare Assed Spanking
Big Daddy bear gives great spankings. Experienced. Safe. Fantasies fulfilled. 2 3743.

Sneaker Sniffer! Bootlicker!!!
Toe sucker! Shoe polisher! Oral, mature, obedient, respectful deep throat expert will kneel to worship & service a man who knows what he wants. a man 3744.

Tit Master Needed To train large nipples on rock hard 47 inch chest. 2 3745.

Safe Kinky Anal Play
Head down...bottom up! Relax & let
me pleasure you—massage, finger &
dildo play, erotic spanking. You're
18-30, any race wyretty ass, chubby
0K. I'm handsome, youthful 40, 5'9",
205#. San Jose or SF area.

22
3747.

Need It Hard & Rough?
Being used & abused, forced to take oversized Dildos . Painful ass stretching/rape scenes. Make you choke & gag on my stiff tool. 22 3748.

COUPLES

My Lover Doesn't Like 3-Ways But I do! GWM, 38, 6', 173#, brn/brn, handsome Italian, healthy HIV+ seeks couple 25-45, in EB or SF. I'm usually oral & bottom, but versatile in trios. № 3566.

Tops Looking 4 Mr. Good Bottom Gdlkng SF couple, HIV-, 40 & 42, tired of monogamy. Looking for hot bottom, HIV-, 25-45, who is ready to play. @ 3656.

OTHER

Seeking Trans-Sexual
Seeking post op or pre op trans-sexual. Passable, physically slender. For erotic pleasures. Seeker is 40's male, 5'10", thin build, 155#, brown hair & eyes. 28 3657.

Senior With Rock Hard Cock My cock stays ultra stiff for 90 minutes or more. Courtesy my urologist. Yours can too check me out. Upper Haight. 22 3658.

Hand Job Looking for the perfect hand job. My dick or your dick or both. Anytime, any place. 2 3749.

Hot Healthy Hung Hndsome HIV+ 50 yo guy seeks daytime encounters w/35-55 yo. You be similar, horny & kinky. ☎ 3750.

Man-To-Man Straight Fit Men Socialize together naked; heroic penises stiffen & touch. Much more...Upper Haight & Russian River. 22 3751.

Travel Companion
For February, 1997. Age 35+. Share expenses, history, adventure in Yu-catan. Economical but not backpacking; seasoned or new traveler. Spanish-speaker a plus. Sex incidental or not expected.

3752.

The Hottest Guy In Town
Even the hottest guy in town is not
worth risking your life over. Always
play safe. Wear a condom and never
exchange bodily fluids. Remember,
safe sex is hot sex! SAFE

BARTALK	
PERSONALS ARE FREE	1

CATEGORY Parting Glances Seeking Relationship

Seeking Adventure Lesbian 🗌 Fetishes Couples

Tou must use uns form to submit aus. Deadine for aus is WEDNESDAT at 5 FW, for the
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clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text.
The Bay Area Reporter reserves the right to edit ads. One ad per customer per week.

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Others
MAIL FORM TO: BAR Talk, Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103

Sunflower self

by Trebor Healey

Candle in the Night: Four Seasons in the Life of a Man with AIDS by Duncan Campbell; Regent Press, \$10

entered upon the writing of this book with the naive per-spective that life and death are separate entities" begins Duncan Campbell in his meditative mem-oir, Candle in the Night: Four Sea-sons in the Life of a Man with AIDS. A book primarily dealing with the acceptance stage of with the acceptance stage of death, Campbell views his life and death as the progression of the seasons. A lifelong gardener and professional landscaper, his final teacher is his own backyard; more specifically, a stand of sunflowers which comes to represent not only himself, but his many friends lovers also afflicted with

Standing eye to eye with the central metaphor of his tale, he feels "suddenly apprehended, seen. It was like looking into the mirror at some essential green version of myself." Waiting for it to bloom, it gives him the courage to carry on. When it finally does bloom, he is horrified to discover an "ugly gash" made by an earwig right in the center and heart of the flower. He attacks the insect ferocoursly and violently tears it out. ciously and violently tears it out,

overcome and ultimately ashamed of his response, but lamenting at how he had "wanted a model of perfect health to believe in ... I wanted to be the sunflower... flower the tallest, the strongest."

This incident becomes yet an

other confrontation with the shadow of death, and another lesson in acceptance. And in Jungian fashion, the author writes that "perhaps I will find that what we call 'illness' is really just an aspect of a much larger process of coming into wholeness, into more complete health." But he doesn't complete health." But he doesn't spare us his grief and anger. He's a man dying with courage, but he writes with that same courage, freely admitting to his inability to always be strong and wise

Devastatingly heartbreaking

Aside from his own travails, Campbell shares the stories of los-ing a dozen friends along the way, watching "the sunflowers" in his garden "collapsing under the weight of their own seed." What is essential for Campbell and typical of his view is in seeing the "seed," not just the wrecked fallen carcasses. His memories of trips to the Russian River with a former lover who has since died are heartbreakingly portentous. One summer they turned over their noe, losing everything but each

other, just as they have now, years

later at the end of their lives.

Campbell's book can be devas tatingly heartbreaking, and it is at least partially because of the fact that he did not see himself as a professional writer, that a lot of the poignancy comes through. He employs a technique of convers-ing with actual dead friends throughout the book, as if you, the reader, were eavesdropping on his personal letters. At times, he addresses you directly, as he when he implores you to "please light a candle for me when I go." Campbell was a successful composer and vocalist, though he

only hints at these activities in this work. I had hoped to learn more about that part of his life. Some readers may find his use of nature imagery a bit old-fashioned or cliché, but he has a way of freshening up even overused metaphors. It's his frankness and accessibility that make his book so readable and easy to recommend. It's one of the few books about AIDS that I've been able to share with my middle-aged parents, aunts and uncles.

Ultimately, this is a book as much about gratefulness as death. Campbell's gift to us all, and the importance of this book, lie in his providing us with a glimpse at the possibilities of dying with dignity, grace, and even a kind of joy in the wonder of it all. ▼ FILM

Crime and punishment

by Gary Morris

ohn Boorman's annihilating 1967 crime thriller "Point Blank" doubles as a vicious satire of corporate America. This one has it all — Lee Marvin's almost supernaturally capable hit man; John Vernon's oily gangster; Angie Dickin-son's world-weary sex kit-ten; Carroll O'Connor's



neurotic, befuddled corporate criminal. Marvin's "Walker" (his handle serves as both forename and surname) is double-crossed by his gang, robbed of his share in a deal, shot and left for dead. Resurrected by sheer force of will, he cunningly kills his way to the top of "the Syndicate," a thinly veiled symbol of the corporations that were already clogging up the landscape in the late '60s.

Boorman's strategies are innovative and breathtaking, from the

sterile, suffocating textures of modern life that trap his characters—marble floors, flocked wallpaper, glass walls everywhere—to the complex structure of flashbacks, flashforwards, and theram sequences that smash narrative continuity as surely as Lee Marvin's fist connects with a jaw. Critics are still arguing about the ending (is the whole film a dream?), but not about Boorman's achievement.

A sparkling new 35mm print of *Point Blank* plays November 21 & 22 at the Roxie Cinema, 3125 16th St. Call 431-2822 for information.

Jacqueline

◄ page **45**

her uncanny knack for PR, which she elevated to an art form in its own right. Susann was a woman who coveted with such fierce intensity those 15 minutes that Warhol proclaimed as our inalienable right that, by sheer force of will, she defied the odds and monopolized our attention for a full half-hour.

Seaman is particularly insight-ful in her analysis of how Susann waged the historic campaigns of self-promotion she single-hand-edly orchestrated like a Roman general, conquering everyone from the lowliest store clerks at B. Dalton to the grizzled Teamsters who shipped her books, buttering up salesmen and brown-nosing the jobbers for the major chains. She performed such stunts at the American Book Sellers Convention as setting up a wet bar that served a noxious concoction called the "Love Machine Cocktail" (which one of its victims detail" (which one of its victims described as a "liquid laxative"). "A new book," she proudly announced, "is just like any new product, like a new detergent," adding, "I have no interest in artistic triumphs that are financial losers. If I had to make a choice between the true I would telect he to be the order of the contraction of the between the two, I would take the dough."

What this extremely entertaining biography makes particularly clear is how the publicity apparatus has become so sophisticated in the world of commercial publish-ing that it has entirely displaced the need for books, which have become superfluous in a system that can commandeer the public's attention simply through adver-tising, through a media blitz that can whip up frenzied interest in any rotten old egg that some tacky broad with orange lips and false eyelashes chooses to lay. ▼

Daniel Harris' The Rise and Fall of Gay Culture will appear in May from Hyperion books.







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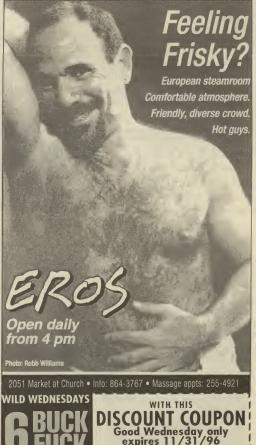
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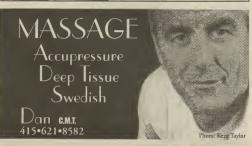
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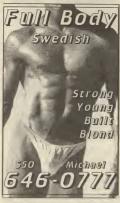
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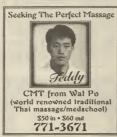
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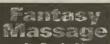
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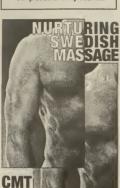
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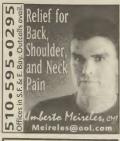
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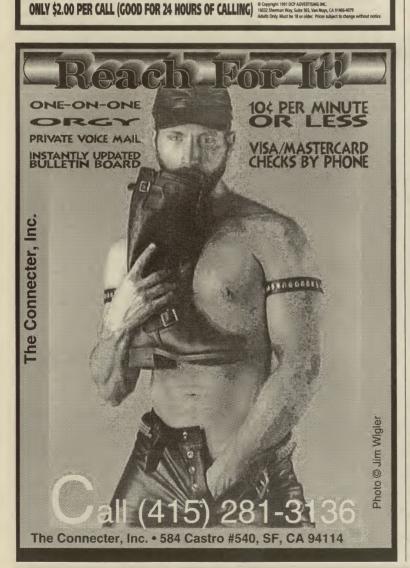
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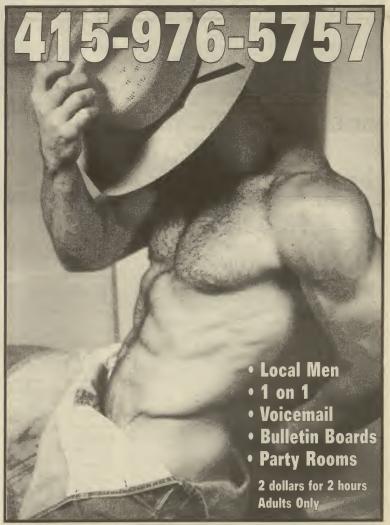
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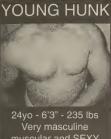
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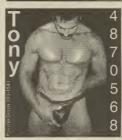
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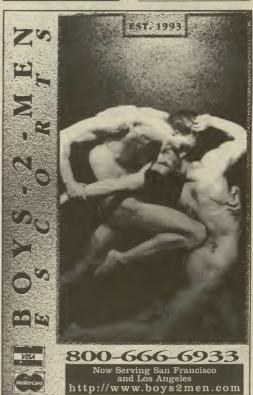
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